

## A message from our sponsor

Staffordshire University Academies Trust's aspirations are reflected in the culture and ethos of our academies. Our communities are built upon sensitivity, tolerance and the appreciation of difference; at the heart of our work is the education of the young people in our care. There is a whole Trust ethos based on Rights, Respect and Responsibility.

Our commitment is to raising standards. In each of our academies we are committed to year on year improvements in the outcomes for our young people. In all of our academies the most recent data demonstrates that the students' achievement and progress is improving because teaching is carefully personalised to meet their needs.

We are committed to providing a stimulating, varied and broad education. Our academies offer a wide range of extra activities as well as good academic standards. We want our students to be genuinely involved in the life of our academies, participating in decisions, interested in their learning and valuing the opportunities they have had. We are proud of their achievements, the quality of our teaching and the pastoral care we provide. We want our young people to leave our academies with ambition, an appetite for learning and the confidence to encounter the challenges and changes that will inevitably face them.

We are pleased and proud that Ofsted have recognised the significant and sustainable improvements that have continued to be made at Staffordshire University Academy (SUA) over the last academic year. We are proud that SUA is an inclusive community school making a very positive contribution towards the life chances of the young people of the town. It is very clear to both the Trust Board and to Ofsted that the academy is now led by an outstanding Principal and her team; we are very confident that SUA will continue to improve, expand and prosper.

When considering which school can best deliver the results your child needs to follow their chosen career pathway, I hope that you will consider SUA as a place for your child to study. Whatever your decision, I would like to wish you good luck with your child's future studies.

**Keith Hollins**

**Chief Executive Officer,  
Staffordshire University Academies Trust**

 **Staffordshire  
University  
Academies  
Trust**





## A message from our Local Academy Council

This is an exciting time for Staffordshire University Academy as it enters the next phase in its development. Our recent achievements bear testimony to the successful collaboration that exists between the academy, its students and their parents and carers and our wider community. As a Local Academy Council we will be examining ways of increasing parental and student input into decision-making within the academy and of further developing the academy's involvement in the life of our community.

The positive relationships in the academy are a feature as Ofsted acknowledged in its last report. At SUA the welfare of the students is at the heart of everyone's efforts. Visitors never fail to be impressed by our students and the environment of our academy. I have every confidence in recommending SUA to all parents seeking a high quality education for their children.

Our aim is to help our students to become effective learners by encouraging them to develop their ability to reach judgements based on analysing suitable evidence. We seek to develop their resilience when confronted with difficulty and encourage them to ask questions, share ideas and listen to the views of others.

Our academy's ethos asks students to reflect on how and what they have learnt and to have the courage to take risks with their learning. Above all we want students to take responsibility for their own learning.

Schools and the way that young people learn, and where they learn, are going to change radically in the future and this continues to pose a fundamentally different set of challenges for SUA's leadership and governance – although the ultimate aim of promoting better examination results and standards for our students remains. Our community can be confident that SUA is in a very strong position as it plans to take full advantage of the opportunities available to it over the next few years.

I hope you will join us as we go forward together; a learning community ready for the 21st century.

**Roger Williams**

**Chairman,  
Local Academy Council**

## Teaching and Learning

Learning and teaching is our core business at SUA. We strive to ensure that all of our students have a positive experience in every lesson they attend and activity they participate in. Enjoying these lessons and activities will inevitably offer up the chance to be the 'best that they can be'. Our staff work tirelessly to ensure students are challenged and supported.

We focus very clearly on the importance of outcomes but these can only be achieved where teaching is at its best and constructive feedback is given. We encourage all of our students to participate in feedback through dialogue, both verbally and written, with their teachers. Feedback dialogue is proving to have a significant impact upon the progress that is being made.

## Ofsted

Our students were a real credit to the academy during our most recent Ofsted inspection of March 2015. Behaviour was rated as 'Good' and inspectors praised the calm and sensible atmosphere within our academy. The report states: "Students behave well... they are enthusiastic about their learning and keen to do well." Similarly, Leadership and Management was rated as 'Good'. The inspection team reported that the academy shows, "a strong capacity to improve further."



## Behaviour

At Staffordshire University Academy we have high expectations of behaviour and believe every student has the right to learn in a calm and productive environment. Students are expected to adopt a positive attitude to learning, ensuring they are punctual, smartly dressed and are actively engaged in lessons. Visitors are invariably impressed by our students good manners and orderly behaviour. The experienced and dedicated academy pastoral team, ensure that every child receives individual guidance, building positive relationships based on trust and mutual respect.





## Attendance

Excellent attendance at the academy is essential to ensure our students achieve their full potential. There are a number of systems in place to support students in maintaining their attendance to a minimum target of at least 96%. Throughout the academic year there are many opportunities to celebrate students who achieve this. Our Attendance Manager works very closely with students and their families and provides a variety of support strategies if they are needed.



## Celebration and Rewards

The academy has a continued tradition of celebrating the success and achievements of our students. We have a rewards system where students are awarded points in lessons for demonstrating a positive attitude to learning. Students can use their points in our online rewards store exchanging these for a variety of gifts. There are opportunities throughout the year for students who have achieved the highest amount of reward points to take part in special academy activities. We hold regular celebration events for past GCSE and A Level students to celebrate their achievements.

## Sixth Form

Staffordshire University Academy has a highly successful sixth form where students engage in an exciting mix of level three academic and vocational courses. Student results have increased in recent years, including the proportion of higher grades. As a result of these excellent results many of our students gain places in university each year, the majority securing their first choice courses. In addition to their qualifications, all students participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities, including work experience, volunteer placements in the local community and charity events. Students also take on positions of responsibility in the wider academy, working as student ambassadors, supervisors of the library and also acting as teaching assistants and student mentors for younger students.





## Inclusive Statement

Staffordshire University Academy is committed to providing inclusive education for all students. All staff are fully informed of student needs and work according to guidelines set by the SEND Code of Practice within the Children and Families Act 2014.

Our academy aims to provide an enriching and aspirational environment for all. Our academy is inclusive. We want all students, whatever their needs or abilities, to be happy, successful and achieve their best. Where students are identified as requiring additional support or strategies to access learning, an individual passport will be written with the student and all teachers have access to these when planning.

Within our academy we have a dedicated Progress Centre who support the educational and emotional needs of our students. This offers a variety of support services including emotional wellbeing and mental health. In addition to developing skills in literacy and numeracy and social awareness. Where necessary, the Progress Centre will signpost to other relevant agencies.

## Curriculum

At Staffordshire University Academy we offer a fully inclusive curriculum package for all of our learners. The curriculum is reviewed annually and this is particularly important now as we make a transition to new Key Stage 4 specifications and a new grading system. A varied curriculum offer is in place for our sixth form including A-Level and vocational qualifications.

All students, Year 7 to 11, follow a varied curriculum which incorporates the core subjects of English, maths, science and global values. The latter incorporates: spiritual, moral, social and cultural development; personal, social and health education; study skills; British values of democracy and making a positive contribution to life in modern Britain.

We have a three year Key Stage 3 and students in Year 7, 8 and 9 follow English, maths, science, geography, history, French, Spanish, art, computer studies, music, drama, DT, catering, RE, citizenship and PE.

There is a two year Key Stage 4 at our academy. All students follow a curriculum which best suits their individual needs. Students can select three GCSEs as well as the core diet of English, maths, science, PE and study skills. There is an alternative curriculum package for some of our students to follow with CoPE (Certificate of Personal Effectiveness) in place of an option if this is the appropriate pathway.

The sixth form curriculum is predominantly based on level three courses. Most students study a mix of academic and vocational courses. There are a choice of 15+ subjects to choose from ranging from the sciences to the more creative art and design subjects. In addition students can choose to complete an extended project. There are opportunities for students to complete additional qualifications including first aid. Students are encouraged to develop excellent study habits with support from their form tutor. They learn about the wider world and career pathways in their weekly global values lessons.





## Facilities

The students and staff of SUA have occupied a fantastic new building since late 2013. There are many facilities which enhance and support the learning environment and allows students to 'Aspire, Believe and Achieve!'

Our facilities are inclusive of an Apple Mac computer room, multiple ICT suites, advanced CCTV and security systems, newly equipped catering department, sports hall, tennis courts, running track as well as fully furnished creative arts stations. The academy also houses a 'Future Technology' environment in the hub, providing students with access to a green screen and radio station.

Continuous improvements are made to further enhance the learning and recreational environment. As part of the academy's improvement plans for example, a floor to ceiling glass wall has recently been installed in reception to further safeguard students without compromising the impressive aesthetics or welcoming feel of the area.

We are proud of our academy. If you would like to see or find out more please contact reception on 01543 512415 or email [info@suacademy.co.uk](mailto:info@suacademy.co.uk) for further details.

