



Building Futures. Changing Lives.



Prospectus

Ofsted July, 2021

Following our recent Ofsted Inspection, we can announce that Shenley Academy is rated overall a Good school with the following findings:

Quality of Education - Good
Behaviour and Attitudes - Outstanding
Leadership and Management - Outstanding
Personal Development - Outstanding



"The school's motto, 'Building futures, changing lives', is exactly what happens here. Everyone involved in the school is committed to every pupil's welfare, well-being and academic success. Pupils' mental health is front and centre in leaders' thinking and decision-making. As a result, pupils thrive and achieve well." OFSTED July 2021.

Building Futures. Changing Lives.

Aspiration • Resilience • Respect • Responsibility • Tolerance

Our Ethos

We believe passionately that education opens doors and has the power to change lives. We aim to inspire our students through our curriculum delivering consistently good lessons that empower learning. Each and every day we instil our values and focus on raising the aspirations of our students by providing an outstanding personal development and extra-curricular programme. We encourage our students to aim high and we are proud to celebrate their achievements.

Our motto: 'Building Futures. Changing Lives' underpins all that we do to support our students to gain confidence, grow and succeed throughout their time with us. Our PSHE programme focuses on BritishValues: Democracy, the Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance as well as having a core focus on safeguarding our students and their mental health and well-being.

Mental well-being remains a core priority for us as an academy and we are committed to all our staff becoming trained mental health first aiders.

We expect high standards in all areas from our students and this helps to create the positive attitude and atmosphere which permeates our academy. Our values are the foundation of this standard and become the tools which our young people will use to achieve success in their own lives.

Welcome from the Headteacher

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to Shenley Academy. I am extremely proud to be part of Shenley Academy's journey and to have the opportunity to work in collaboration with our staff, students, parents and the wider E-ACT community to ensure we achieve the very best outcomes for each of our students.

Our aim is to provide the very best learning and personal development opportunities and we strive to nurture a caring and supportive atmosphere in which each student is recognised as an individual, actively encouraging their participation in our wider school activities. We believe that all students should have the opportunity to participate in an enrichment activity and we offer an exceptional range of extra-curricular activities.

We have the highest expectations of all our students and staff, encouraging a continuous development of learning and a drive for knowledge placing a strong emphasis on behaviour and standards. We aim to develop confident young people who aspire to continually improve and who are well prepared for the next steps in life. Our teaching aims to inspire young people to develop a passion for their subjects and we hold effort at the heart of our rewards system.

Our partnership with parents and carers is very important to us, and we will work closely with you throughout your child's time with us to nurture their aspirations, their learning and their achievement.

I am immensely proud to have the opportunity to work with you all and I recognise the great privilege I hold as Headteacher in shaping your children's future.

A very warm welcome to Shenley Academy.

Dr Jayne Bartlett, Headteacher



Hello to Year 6 from Year 7

Bianca

Hello, my name is Bianca and I am a student at Shenley Academy. I wanted to write to you to show you that Shenley Academy is an amazing school. I have only positive experiences from many progressive lessons. Every teacher works as hard as possible to organise activities for their classes and makes sure the students are as comfortable as they should be. Not only that, but the academy staff is always open to listening to any issues or problems you may have, ensuring your safety. Shenley is supportive of its different students and communities. If you have any worries or concerns, the Safeguarding Team are there for you to reassure you everything is fine. There are also student ambassadors to help you as well as the staff.

In my first year at Shenley, I experienced many new topics and was able to put them into practice. I love all of the subjects, yet if I had to pinpoint my favourite, it would be English.

Ross

Hello, I'm Ross and I've been at Shenley for a year and I have really enjoyed it. I've had very supportive teachers, enjoyed lessons and have had help every step of the way.

The teachers have listened to every idea and taken it into consideration and acted on it providing the best learning experience possible.

The curriculum is well thought out and is connected perfectly to each lesson allowing for a smooth transition between lessons.

I think everyone who comes to Shenley will enjoy it!

What students say

Our students would recommend Shenley Academy to you because:

"in over nearly a year that I have been here, the academy has helped me learn many new things and the lessons are engaging and very easy to understand."

Klaudia

"You feel safe and everyone is sensible, kind and really nice."

Ateeb

Teachers at Shenley Academy are:

"Caring, respectful and friendly."

Katerina

"Very supportive of their students and encourage them to be more confident and speak out."

Bianca

"Kind, understanding, funny and cool."

Keira

Some favourite subjects at Shenley Academy are:

"Maths because I love learning it!"

Raushard

"Art because you can be as creative as you like and there are many different activities."

Amelia

"English as I am both good and passionate about it. Also, the English teachers are supportive and it includes creativity which I enjoy."

QingQing

Shenley in three words:

"Outstanding, Brilliant, Fun!"

George



Our Trust

Shenley Academy is one of 28 state funded academies in England which is part of E-ACT educational trust.

The E-ACT community includes over 18,000 pupils and 2,500 teaching and non-teaching professionals across the country.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE PART OF E-ACT

As an E-ACT academy, we can collaborate and share ideas with other academies within the trust in ways that other schools may not be able to. By being part of a larger trust, our students and staff also feel part of something much bigger.

E-ACT supports its 28 academies through two regions: North and South. We can rely on support when it is needed from colleagues across the trust who work with us to lead academy improvement.



THINK BIG, SHOW TEAM SPIRIT, DO THE RIGHT THING

Another Birmingham E-ACT academy, Heartlands, with whom we have close links, was recently ranked one of the best secondary schools in the country for pupil progress and was named School of the Year at the Times Educational Supplement schools awards.

As an E-ACT academy, we have the highest aspirations for our students and will never use their backgrounds or where they have grown up as an excuse for underperformance.

By encouraging them to think big and believe that anything is possible, by showing them the importance of team spirit and by supporting them to carefully think through their decisions to do the right thing, we know that every one of our students can realise their full potential.



Curriculum

Shenley Academy students are set ambitious targets to achieve throughout their time with us. This is realised through a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes a full range of learning and life skills.

We expect all of our students to aspire to achieve the very best examination results, but we recognise that in order to equip students with the skills that they need to be well-rounded members of society, we need to offer opportunities to develop the skills, attributes and awareness in all subjects.

Students from all year groups are taught for 25 hours per week, with additional time for tutorials.

- In the majority of subjects students are set and taught in groups of similar ability.
- In years 7,8 and 9 students follow a curriculum of English, mathematics, science, ICT, French or Spanish, history, geography, design technology, dance, drama, music, art, physical education and religious education.
- Alongside their core curriculum students choose their optional GCSE courses at the end of year 9, including opportunities to study new subject areas such as Health and Social Care and Sports and Fitness.
- Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) is taught across the curriculum and embedded in our tutorial and assemblies programme. Topics are built on British values, mental health and well being including themes such as safety, drugs education,

sex education, health related exercise and lifestyles.

- Sex education is offered to all students in line with recommended guidance from the Department for Education.
- We provide high quality careers advice and guidance throughout year 7 to year 11. This includes a range of experiences through our partnerships with KPMG and Business in the Community. All students in year 10 take part in work experience. We recognise how important these experiences are in preparing students for life after Shenley Academy. Careers is an integral part of our curriculum and part of our academic and pastoral programmes.
- We set high, but realistic targets in all curriculum areas for students in all years. Sophisticated tracking systems enable us to monitor students' progress carefully and identify where intervention may be required.
- Parents/carers receive termly progress reports, indicating progress in each subject, and a full written report once every academic year.
- Annual parents' evenings for each year group provide an opportunity for parents/ carers to have detailed discussions with key staff.
- Information evenings take place across the year to provide further information to parents/carers on key topics.



Results

Key Stage 4 Results 2018-2019

(Please note schools and academies are not required to publish exam and assessment results from the 2019-20 academic year given the disruption caused to education by the pandemic. Our 2018-2019 performance measures are listed below for information)

We are extremely proud that our results improved in 2019.

53% of our students gained a grade 4 or above in English and mathematics in 2019, an increase of 10% compared with 2018.

34% of our students gained a grade 5 or above in English and mathematics in 2019, an increase of 5% compared with 2018.

Our mathematics results showed an impressive increase of 14%, with 58% of students gaining a grade 4 or above in mathematics in 2019 compared with 44% in 2018.

Those who achieved a grade 5 or above in mathematics increased by 9% to 38%.

We continue in our drive for improving the outcomes for all of our students.

Pastoral

We have created a confident and inclusive community at Shenley Academy, where everyone is valued and feels safe. We want all our students to succeed personally, academically and professionally in their futures, being prepared to navigate the various challenges of life with integrity, morality and kindness.

We know that students who feel safe and happy at school will reach their potential and realise their aspirations.

We make sure that every student is known as an individual and this is through a strong pastoral system:

- All students are placed into a form group with their peers and their tutor is the first point of contact between home and the academy.
- Form tutors see students daily and will monitor welfare, attendance and progress to ensure each student is fully supported.
- Each year group has a Pastoral Manager and our Key Stages are headed by an Assistant Headteacher of Progress.

Our learning support team led by our Head of Inclusion, will give additional and specialist support when it is identified and needed. Communication between home and the academy forms an essential part of this relationship. We work with parents/carers and other professionals to achieve the best possible outcomes for all our students.



Our Facilities

A new building for the academy was completed and opened in 2012 by the Lord Mayor of Birmingham councillor John Lines, providing state-of-the art facilities for all of our students and staff.

Shenley Academy is a modern three storey building situated on a large site in south Birmingham which affords comprehensive outdoor facilities.

Subjects are grouped into faculties and all of the specialist teaching rooms are equipped to a very high standard and they include: eight science laboratories, two dance studios with sprung floors, two drama studios and a fully equipped theatre, two large art-rooms with graphic design facilities, extensive music facilities and a Learning Resources Centre. Since 2013, the academy has benefitted from a £1.4million investment in ICT and a new Virtual Learning Environment which supports an online curriculum and

gives students (and parents/carers) access from home. Our ICT provision enables 1:1 access in many areas.

The sports facilities are outstanding. They comprise two four-court sports halls, extensive external pitches, a dedicated table tennis suite, a state of the art fitness centre and a large table tennis arena.

The site is extensive and includes external play and recreation areas, quiet seating, huge playgrounds, a multi-use games area and an outdoor amphitheatre. Overall, the facilities at the academy are exceptional. If you would like to find out more, the best way to see and experience our facilities first hand is to come to one of our Open Events. Further details will be available on our website. Please contact the academy if you would like to visit at another time, we would be very pleased to show you around.





Performing Arts

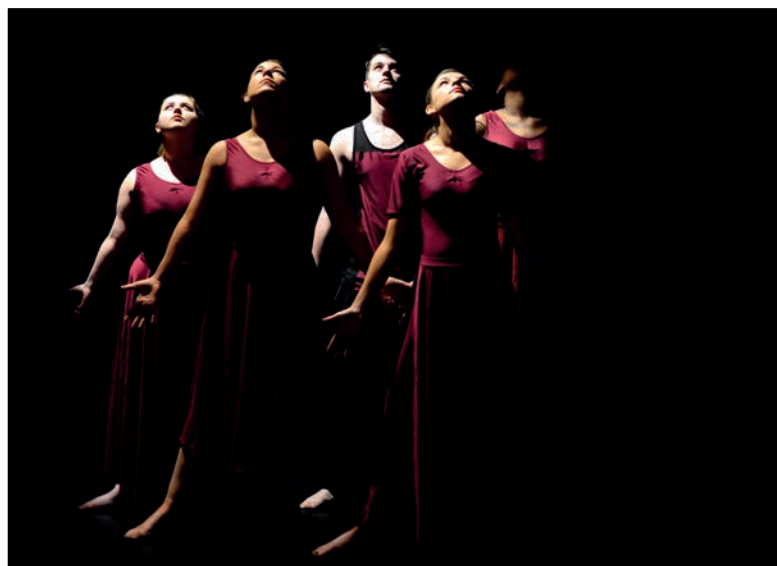
Education at Shenley Academy extends beyond the academy day and classroom and our performing arts make the academy an exciting and vibrant place to be. Our performing arts provision has been awarded the prestigious Artsmark Gold status, recognising our excellence in and commitment to the arts. All students learn music, music technology, dance, drama and art at key stage 3 and can specialise in one or more of these art forms when they choose their optional GCSEs.

Extensive enrichment opportunities and partnerships with leading arts organisations in Birmingham, such as the CBSO and Birmingham Rep give additional opportunities to students. We aim to give our students as many different experiences during their time at Shenley Academy as possible. Whether that is trips abroad, field trips, visits to colleges and universities, or cultural visits to museums and the theatre. No day at the academy is the same and life is incredibly busy!

The CBSO - We have a partnership extending over seven years with the orchestra which continues to offer our students extraordinary experiences of working with professional artists and visiting and performing in world class venues including Symphony Hall.

The Birmingham Repertory Theatre - We offer a weekly drama workshop, open to all students, which culminates in a performance in a professional setting.

Music Tuition - We believe that it is important for every young person to have the opportunity to learn to play an instrument. We currently offer a range of contemporary and classical instrumental lessons including strings, woodwind, brass, percussion and guitar. Our music tuition is provided by Birmingham Music Service, and we operate a waiting list for all instruments. We expect those students who participate in music tuition to commit to attending lessons, extra-curricular activities and practice.



Sport

Sport is a real strength in the academy. Our committed sports staff are dedicated to making sure that students get the most out of physical activity, whatever their aptitude or ability. We offer a variety of sports and our teams often compete at district and county level. Our taught PE curriculum currently includes football, netball, rounders, indoor rowing, table tennis, basketball, indoor and outdoor athletics, softball and badminton as well as a successful sports leadership programme. We are the lead school for the local sports network and are proud of the awards which we have gained for the quality and inclusive nature of our sports.



Duke of Edinburgh Award

The academy has recently been made a licenced provider of the highly acclaimed Duke of Edinburgh Award and it is with great delight that we are now able to offer our students the opportunity to complete this prestigious award which will not only afford them a great experience, but will also set them in good stead for life after school with a top credential to show prospective employers.

The DofE award is a life-changing experience: a fun time with friends, an opportunity to discover new interests and talents, a tool to develop essential skills for life and work, a recognised mark of achievement – and is highly respected by employers.

There are four sections to complete at Bronze and Silver level and five at Gold. They involve helping the community/environment, becoming fitter, developing new skills, planning, training for and completing an expedition, and for Gold only, working with a team on a residential activity.

Any young person can complete the DofE award – regardless of ability, gender, background or location. Achieving an award is not a competition or about being first; it's all about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries.

Through our DofE programme, young people will have fun, make friends, improve their self-esteem and build confidence.

They gain essential skills and attributes for work and life such as resilience, problem-solving, team-working, communication and drive; enhancing CVs and university and job applications. Top employers recognise the work-ready skills award holders bring to their business.



Learning Resource Centre

As an academy, we ensure that all learners have high levels of literacy that is appropriate to their age. Our students read widely and often across all subjects and receive effective and cohesive teaching across the curriculum to support this. Our students develop and apply a wide range of skills to great effect, in reading, writing and communication. As an academy, we see that literacy supports progress; better literacy leads to improved self-esteem, motivation and behaviour and it allows students to learn independently.

Our Learning Resource Centre contains both a fiction and non-fiction area filled with books for students to access throughout the academy day. Our non-fiction section contains Geography, History, Sports, Science, Information Technology, Religion and Media. Our fiction genres include Action, Classics, Drama, Fantasy, Horror, History, Humour, Mystery, Sports and Social Issues. We are also pleased to have newly updated diversity and mental health sections within the LRC with informative displays and staff recommendations. In order to

support our students' online learning, we have several computers that enable students to study and explore multi-modal texts. We also have an area dedicated to providing our GCSE students with the revision resources needed for each of the subjects that we offer them and they have dedicated computers for further research.

Our librarian is available to support and guide students and also teaches them through our Key Stage 3 Library Curriculum. The curriculum supports literacy through targeted vocabulary instruction and a bespoke reading programme that offers pathways tailored to the needs of our students. During break and lunch times, the librarian ensures that the space is used by students for extracurricular activities centred on reading, literacy and mental health. The LRC is truly an active and purposeful place in which our staff work to enrich students' literacy through engagement and progress.

Library Opening Hours:
Monday-Friday, 9am - 4pm.



SEND and Mental Health

All students including those who have a disability and/or special educational needs are welcome. We want to inspire all of our students to fulfil their ambitions and value effort and hard work, but we acknowledge that not all students are the same and that is why we believe it is important to know every child in our academy.

All of our teachers receive appropriate training related to SEND, and are ready to adapt their lessons to cater for your child's needs.

The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) leads the learning support team who work together with all staff to provide the best possible support for all students.

Effective assessment and provision for children with SEND or any other additional needs will be secured in partnership with parent/carers, the young person, our academy network, the Local Authority and any other appropriate external services. Support is provided for any student who at any time in their academy career requires additional support or provision to help them to achieve success.

We also believe that maintaining your child's safety and wellbeing is central to their development, and therefore we aim to create an environment in which differences

are celebrated.

To complement and sit alongside our educational curriculum, the Trust has supported us to produce a personalised mental health curriculum to meet the specific needs of our students.

Our mental health curriculum is based on pupil voice gained from workshops across E-ACT academies, making them unique and based on real needs so our students develop their understanding of mental health as part of their everyday learning experiences.

Post-lockdown, we knew that a great deal of focus would need to be given to our students' mental health and that they could not dive straight back into their educational curriculum as it was.

Designed to recognise our students' most recent experiences and to provide opportunities for them to re-build relationships, our Relationships and Recovery Curriculum focussed on supporting our children to recover from trauma, anxiety and even loss while redeveloping important relationships.



Academy Uniform

By accepting a place at Shenley Academy parents, carers and students support and keep to the academy uniform policy. We believe that students in years 7-11 should be dressed professionally which helps to establish the correct attitude for learning. The students were heavily involved in helping to choose the design of our uniform and we expect our students to wear it with pride.

Uniform

- Plain black tailored trousers
- Plain black knee length tailored skirt – all year groups
- Plain white school shirt
- Academy tie
- Black/red V-necked sweater with Academy badge
- Plain black formal school shoes (leather/leather like material without a logo)
- Black tights only with skirts (no footless tights or leggings)
- Dark socks with trousers



We also require all students to wear uniform sports clothing for PE. More details can be found on our website.



Admissions

We offer places at Shenley Academy in line with our published criteria which you can find on our website.

As an academy, we operate as an independent admissions authority, but our admissions criteria are aligned to those of Birmingham local authority schools and we follow the Birmingham scheme for co-ordinated admissions. Parents/carers should use the Birmingham local authority form for admissions to Shenley Academy. We welcome visits from prospective students and their parents/carers during designated open evenings and mornings. Details of these can be found on our website. In addition we are happy to show you around our academy by prior arrangement. Staff will be available to answer any questions which you may have. Please contact us through our enquiry form on the website.





Shenley Lane
Birmingham
B29 4HE

0121 464 5191
shenley.enquiry@e-act.org.uk
www.shenleyacademy.e-act.org.uk

