



The Birley Academy  
A L.E.A.D. Academy



**Prospectus**

  
L.E.A.D. Academy Trust  
Lead • Empower • Achieve • Drive

**“Thank you for all the time and effort you have put in.”**  
Student

  
L.E.A.D. Academy Trust  
Lead • Empower • Achieve • Drive

**“So glad that we had this conversation.”**  
Parent

  
L.E.A.D. Academy Trust  
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**“This place is brimming over with talent.”**  
Birley Parent

  
L.E.A.D. Academy Trust  
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**“They were engaging and lovely pupils to work with.”**  
University partner

  
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**“Fantastic school.”**  
External partner

  
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**“Must comment on how well-behaved your students are.”**  
Member of the public

  
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**“I get lots of help.”**  
Student

  
L.E.A.D. Academy Trust  
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**“The staff have surpassed themselves in dedication, determination and genuine care for the benefit of the students.”**



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The Birley Academy



# Supporting Students Every Day

At the Birley Academy every student has access to the following support when required:

- A dedicated Form Tutor
- A dedicated Year Leader
- A dedicated Progress Leader
- A dedicated Social, Emotional & Mental Health Key Worker
- A dedicated SENCO and SEND department
- Weekly PSHE lessons
- Careers advice
- The Student Council
- 1:1 intervention and mentoring
- Personalised support packages





# Welcome from the Headteacher

Welcome to our prospectus for The Birley Academy. The Birley Academy are individuals who come together - each of us playing a unique role - with one common purpose - education. We are part of LEAD an exceptional academy trust and we embody four core principles; Lead, Empower, Achieve, Drive.

Our vision and our promise are the cornerstone of what we do at Birley. At Birley we know each other as individuals and we value each other. We challenge each other and ourselves to always strive for more. We protect and support each other, we inspire and guide each other, we empathise and are compassionate with each other, all of this we do routinely.

We expect our students to make the most of every opportunity - academia, sports, arts and develop a curiosity about the world and their place in it. As a school community, we acknowledge, celebrate and reward success, effort, compassion and understanding.

We are honoured to support the next generation as they develop into their future selves and prepare to take their place in the world.

I hope this information gives you a good idea of us, and what we are achieving at The Birley Academy. For further information, or if you have a specific questions, please do not hesitate to ask me or my team.

**Gina Newton**  
**Headteacher**





The Birley Academy



# Our Vision

## Lead

That means we:

- Make things happen
- Take opportunities
- Create improvement
- Are role models for others

## Empower

That means we:

- Teach
- Develop and challenge ourselves
- Support the development and challenge of others
- Work together
- Care for each other

## Achieve

That means we:

- Learn
- Are successful
- Set goals and reach them
- Leave a positive impression

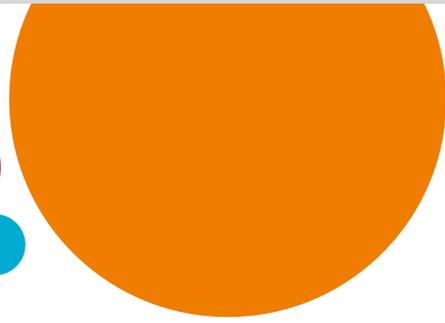
## Drive

That means we:

- Show resilience
- Show resourcefulness



The Birley Academy



# The Birley Promise

## We promise you will have the chance to go on:

- Visits abroad
- Outdoor pursuits
- Residential visits
- Field work
- Visit to London
- Theatre visits
- Cinema visits
- Museum visits

## We promise you can do:

- Productions
- Performances
- Lunch time and after school clubs
- Tuition in a musical instrument
- Extra-curricular sport

## We promise you can get involved in:

- Student council
- Student ambassadors
- Youth Parliament
- Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- Charity fund raising
- Sports Leaders' Award Scheme

## We promise you can access:

- Independent careers' advice
- Links with universities
- Extended transition to support the move from Y6 to Y7
- The chance to celebrate success
- Revision classes
- Evening classes
- College taster days
- Work experience
- High Quality and aspirational education inside and outside the classroom





# Letter from our Ambassadors

We would like to welcome you to The Birley Academy and in this letter we would like to tell you about life at Birley and why we think it is a brilliant school to attend.

At The Birley Academy everyone has high expectations for learning - the students take pride in their learning and this makes school a better place. When you get to Year 9 the school offers excellent help with choosing your options and they host meetings to help you make certain that you have taken the right choices. There is also a good variety of GCSEs that you can take, including many practical subjects like Food, Engineering and Art. The courses are great and there is special equipment available for you to use.

There is a good leadership team and the staff at The Birley Academy are always on hand to help you, for example the Year Leaders are always there to listen to you. There is always someone to support you at school if you need it!

The food in the school canteen is good and it offers a wide range of hot food as well as cold food such as sandwiches and salads. We love the pizza and the chicken bites are always popular!

The Birley Academy offers a wide range of extra-curricular activities such as: netball, football, university mentoring as well as opportunities to improve your CV when you're ready to move into the world of work. We also like the fact that you can become a school ambassador and join the student council which means you have the chance to share your opinion.

At Birley, we offer multiple school trips inside and outside of the UK. Some of which have been to Austria, Belgium and France. These trips include opportunities to learn more about the areas and experience the culture as well as other fun activities. We think that these trips are fabulous opportunities for any students that want to take part in them.

Finally, we like the fact that students at The Birley Academy are rewarded for their brilliance! We have regular celebration evenings and rewards assemblies.

We look forward to meeting you sometime and we know you will love coming to Birley as much as we do.

## The Birley Ambassadors





 academy



# School Day

Tutor time	Period 1	Period 2	Break	Period 3	Period 4			Period 5	Intervention, Enrichment & Detention time	
8.45 - 9.00am	9.00 - 10.00am	10.00 - 11.00am		11.15 - 12.15pm	12.15 - 1.15pm		12.45 - 1.45pm		1.45 - 2.45pm	2.45 - 3.45pm As applicable
					Lunch 1 Year 10 & 11 12.15 - 12.45pm	Lunch 2 Year 7 12.45 - 1.15pm	Lunch 3 Year 8 & 9 1.15 - 1.45pm			

## Dining and Food Information

At The Birley Academy we provide an excellent catering service to pupils and staff, offering a healthy choice of foods, including a full hot food selection, pasta and sandwiches. For many students lunch is the main meal of their day. Meal time should be relaxed and calm whilst also providing all the ingredients necessary to assist with pupils' concentration and learning. At the Academy, we prefer to manage the catering provision ourselves, giving us more control and choice over the food we offer. This allows us to ensure a good variety and selection of foods to cater for every taste.

### Lunch Time

At The Birley Academy all of our students remain on site and can purchase their meals from the dining area. Food may only be consumed in our designated seating areas. If you prefer, your child may bring a packed lunch to school but please be aware we do not allow on site energy drinks or large bottles of fizzy drinks.

If you think you may be entitled to free school meals, but do not yet claim for them, please contact Howden House - 0114 273 5705 or 0114 273 6401

### Break Time

At break time our pupils are offered a range of healthy snack, containing fresh fruit. Drinks on offer include still water, low fat flavoured milks and no added sugar fruit juices.

### Drinking Water

The Academy provides a free supply of drinking water at break and lunch times.

### Vegetarians and Vegans

The Academy catering team offers a vegetarian option for lunch every day. When necessary, the Academy will offer a vegan option.

### Food allergy and Food intolerance

Individual care plans are created for students with food allergies. These document symptoms and adverse reactions, actions to be taken in an emergency, and emergency contact details. The Academy catering are made aware of any food allergies or food intolerances and requests for special diets are submitted through an agreed process.



# Compulsory Academy Uniform

The Academy has strict guidelines on dress. All pupils are expected to wear the full Academy uniform, including travelling to and from the Academy. Parents are strongly advised to ensure they supervise the purchase of school uniform and, where unsure as to the suitability of an item, they contact the Academy in advance.

Our uniform comprises of:

- Plain long or short sleeve shirt - White
- Plain trousers or skirt - black. Jeans and cords are not allowed. Skirts should be no shorter than knee length. All items should allow for shirts to be properly tucked in and must not be tight-fitting.
- Academy Tie
- Academy blazer - Grey
- Plain, sensible black shoes. Footwear must be leather or leather look with flat soles - no trainers, boots, pumps or canvas shoes will be allowed. High heeled shoes are unsuitable and dangerous on our school site.
- Navy blue V neck jumper with LEAD logo - sleeves need to be at full length.

## Shirts, Jumpers and Blazers

- Blazers must be worn with the sleeves down
- Sleeves on shirts, jumpers or blazers must not be rolled up at any time.
- Shirts must be tucked in.
- Only badges issued by the academy may be worn on jackets. Other badges, eg Charity badges, must only be on outdoor coats or bags.

## Shoes

Footwear must be plain black leather or leather look with flat soles - no trainers, boots, pumps or canvas shoes will be allowed. High heeled shoes are unsuitable and dangerous on our school site.

**NB - If student are not wearing the correct uniform they will be expected to remain in the student workroom until the matter is resolved.**



# Compulsory Academy Uniform

## Outdoor Coats

Outdoor coats should be plain and should have no large logos. Please note, hoodies, fur, denim and studded leather jackets are not allowed.

Outdoor coats should be removed at the entrance to the Academy building as outdoor wear is not permitted indoors.

## Bag

Students require a school bag which can fit in an Academy planner and A4 workbooks.

## Compulsory PE Uniform

- Academy PE Top
- Academy reversible games top (recommended for winter sports)
- Academy Shorts
- Plain navy blue knee length games socks
- White sports socks for indoor use
- Indoor trainers - Non-marking sole with laces, providing support to ankle and foot.
- Outdoor Footwear - Suitable for on grass use. E.g Football boots or Astro turf shoes.
- Gum shield for rugby (Will be informed when necessary for other sports)
- Shin pads for football

## Jewellery, Make up and Hair styles

Jewellery is not allowed, except for one pair of small, plain stud ear studs. Ear rings, rings, nose studs or other piercings/jewellery are not acceptable.

Fake nails and excessive make up is not allowed for students in Y7-11. Nails must be short and natural looking. Long nails are a health and safety concern when students are taking part in subjects such as PE, Design and Technology and Science.

Hair styles which are considered 'excessive' will not be allowed at the Academy. Hair must be of natural colour and must not be dyed. Pupils are not allowed 'cuts', shapes or designs.



# Curriculum

## Objectives of Curriculum

At Birley we aim to provide a broad and balanced curriculum to support all of our children in achieving their potential. The purpose of the curriculum is to develop the deep skills and knowledge that will allow students to thrive in life beyond the academy. We value the role of academic and vocational qualifications and offer students a range of choices. We believe all students should have an opportunity to access the full school curriculum.

The curriculum is designed and coordinated by Curriculum Leaders through close work with the Leadership Team. Each curriculum area will not only meet the objectives and requirements of the national curriculum, but will also foster a keen interest in and understanding of specific subjects in order to share with students a passion and expertise in their areas of study.

In summary the Academy's intent is to ensure that the curriculum:

- Broadens student's aspirations and opens their minds
- Offers an ambitious programme of study by providing essential knowledge in each subject area
- Helps students make a positive contribution to modern society as active citizens
- Equips students with the skills, knowledge and qualifications needed to progress further
- Prepare students for the world of work.

## KS3

The KS3 curriculum runs from Y7-Y9 and focuses on the development of the deep skills and knowledge required at KS4 and beyond. Students are entitled to subjects from the core curriculum of Maths, English and Science but also have the opportunity to experience and master subjects drawn from a wide range of specialisms. The rich and varied curriculum includes performing arts, religious studies and design and technology subjects, for example. In addition, the tutor-time curriculum complements the wider curriculum in embedding key learning skills. The KS3 curriculum is designed and coordinated by Curriculum Leaders and their teams and is managed to ensure that key topics are delivered, relevant assessments are provided and accurate and helpful feedback is given. Through this process over the three years students are in a strong position to make choices around the pathways available at KS4.

## KS4

The KS4 curriculum is broad- offering a wide range of GCSE (and equivalent) subjects in order to suit individual interests, passions and life choices. As well as adhering to Statutory Progress 8 requirements, the curriculum at KS4 emphasises preparation for post 16 opportunities to give our young people the best start in life beyond the Academy possible.

All students will study English Language, English Literature, Mathematics and Science (combined or separate). In addition their choices will allow them the chance to study a humanities (Geography/History) and MFL. To develop a wide range of skills and knowledge students will also have the chance to study a combination of:

- Food
- Resistant materials
- PE
- Engineering
- Music
- Drama
- Art
- Religious Studies
- Graphics
- Imedia

In addition to the qualification on offer, the curriculum at Birley is also intended to ensure students can navigate the challenges of life in a complex world with confidence and support. A weekly session of PSHE is therefore offered to give students support with work experience, college applications, emotional well-being, good values and mental health.

## Post 16

At 16 virtually all our students move into further education, training or employment. We have very close relationships with Sheffield College and our local sixth form schools, ensuring that students have a good transition at 16 onto courses which will bring them success. We also work closely with both Sheffield University and Sheffield Hallam University, helping our students to understand what opportunities lie ahead of them.

For further information regarding the curriculum contact:

[enquiries@birleysecondaryacademy.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@birleysecondaryacademy.co.uk)



# Careers

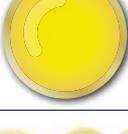
<p><b>Year 7 &amp; 8</b></p>	<p>IMPACT Events  </p> <p>Brilliant Club</p> <p>My Future Project  </p> <p>University Trips</p> <p>Big Bang Fair  </p> <p>Careers Clinic  </p> <p>Aspirations Day</p> <p>Student Council &amp; Ambassadors</p>	<p><b>Year 10</b></p> <p>Careers Interview with Sheffield Futures  </p> <p>Careers Clinic</p> <p>Work experience placement</p> <p>Assemblies with local business/colleges</p> <p>USISM Events  </p> <p>PSHE lessons on CV writing, interview skills and applying for work experience</p> <p>Student Council &amp; Ambassadors</p> <p>Aspirations Day</p> <p>Brilliant Club</p>
<p><b>Year 9</b></p>	<p>My Future Project</p> <p>University Trips  </p> <p>Discover US Events  </p> <p>Careers Clinic</p> <p>Aspirations Day  </p> <p>Student Council &amp; Ambassadors</p>	<p><b>Year 11</b></p> <p>Post 16 Open Evenings  </p> <p>College visits</p> <p>Careers interviews with Sheffield Futures</p> <p>Careers Clinic  </p> <p>PSHE lessons on applications, personal statements, interview skills</p> <p>Student Council &amp; Ambassadors</p> <p>Aspirations Day  </p>

All students are given opportunities to learn essential skills needed for employment, along with an understanding of the types of careers available to them through exciting and interesting activities and events. Our Careers Lead is available to speak about careers on Wednesdays after school.



# Rewards

As part of our rewards system if you win an award at one of our celebration evenings you may be issued with one of the badges shown below. The aim is to collect all of these badges by the time you leave The Birley Academy in Year 11.

	<b>Outstanding Leadership</b>
	<b>The Empowerment Award</b>
	<b>Outstanding Achievement</b>
	<b>Outstanding Effort (Drive)</b>
	<b>The Year Leader Award</b>
	<b>The Leadership Team Award</b>
	<b>100% Attendance</b>
	<b>School Representation Badge</b>



# Student Leadership Badges

At The Birley Academy we offer all our students the opportunity to take up a leadership role. Students who regularly take part in these activities are issued with a badge to identify their role. They are also regularly rewarded through bonus reward points and celebration breakfasts.

	<p><b>Student Ambassador</b> - Front of house at school events, tours of school during interviews, take part in student voice activities with external visitors.</p>
	<p><b>Sports Captains</b> - Regularly captain academy sports team.</p>
	<p><b>Sports Leader</b> - Completed the Junior Sports Leaders Award and regularly takes a leadership in primary sports events.</p>
	<p><b>Performing Arts Leader</b> - Regularly assumes the leadership role in the Performing Arts Club. This will include writing scripts, directing, choreography as well as performing.</p>
	<p><b>Performing Arts Ambassador</b> - Regularly attends and takes part in the Performing Arts Club as well as taking part in the academy productions.</p>
	<p><b>Student Council</b> - For members of the student council.</p>



# General Information

## Transition - To Secondary School

Starting secondary school is a big step, so we make the transition process as smooth as possible. We offer an extended transition before they leave Primary School where a range of lessons are taught, and gives them confidence in what to expect before September.

Our strong pastoral team, means there is a dedicated Progress Leader and Year Leader for each year group, and extra staff to support the most vulnerable.

## Informed - Keeping you updated

We ensure that all parents receive reports on academic progress. As well as this, parents are informed if pupils need to stay behind for any reason. To keep pupils safe we keep in regular contact, including ensuring we know reasons for absence, how we can support and not allowing students to fall behind.

All pupils have a dedicated tutor, and part of their job is to ensure that communication between school and home is regular and productive.

## Admission

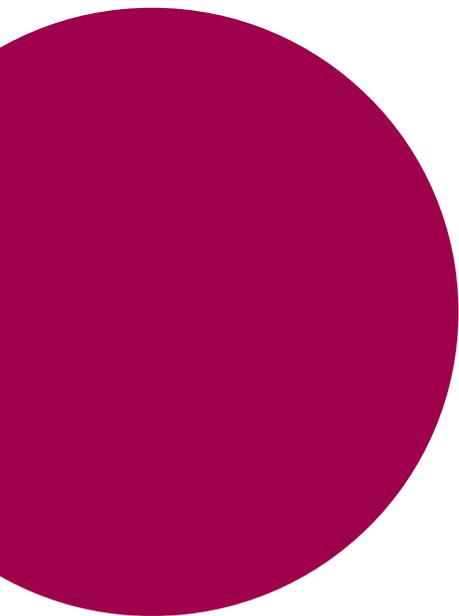
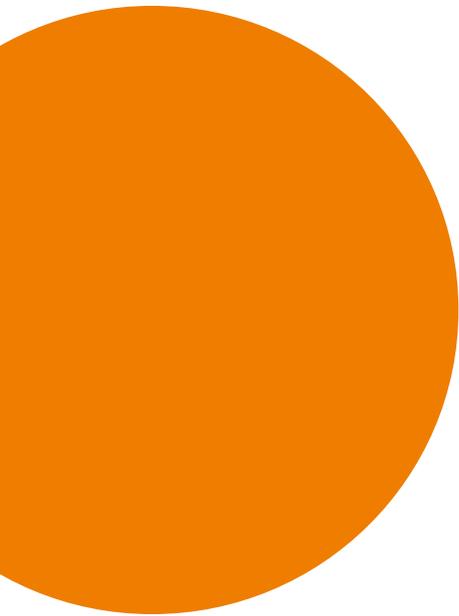
All applications for places at The Birley Academy are made in accordance with the Local Authority's co-ordinated admission arrangements and will be made on the common application form provided and administered by the local authority. Once your application has been processed your application will be forwarded to us here at The Birley Academy. A place will only be offered if we have not reached our optimum number in that year group.

## The Site

The Birley Academy is a popular secondary school situated in the south east of Sheffield. We have a modern building set on a pleasant campus and enjoy excellent facilities.

We have a purpose built on site library, hall, drama studio, specialist science, music, technology and art classrooms and have excellent PE facilities including a dance studio and fitness gym.





## The Birley Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

### **The Birley Academy**

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