



**Walton**  
everyone achieving their full potential

Welcome to  
Walton Academy



Diverse  
Academies

# Principal's welcome

Welcome to Walton Academy. I am excited to introduce you to our high performing community which has kindness and excellence at its heart, supported by our ethos of excellence, commitment, courage and ownership. At Walton we strongly believe in everyone aspiring to be 'the best they can be' – this allows us to fulfil our ambition of every student achieving their full potential.

We strive to be the best secondary school in the country and we are committed to continually improving our offer and the quality of our provision. Our most recent academic results were incredible and placed us in the top 1% of the all schools nationally. This demonstrates that all Walton students leave with the skills and knowledge they need to successfully move onto their next steps.

We expect and encourage all of our students to become fully involved in Walton life. Alongside their commitment to academic excellence, our character education is hugely important to us. Enrichment at Walton thrives throughout all subject areas, with many opportunities for students to experience new things. All students will experience our 'LORIC' curriculum, this develops five key

attributes – leadership, organisation, resilience, initiative and communication. The exploration and development of these skills gives our students at Walton 'the edge' preparing them for the next stages in their educational journey and the world of work.

We want our students to be strong of mind, will and heart, for each individual to be successful academically but also leave us with a robust moral compass. At Walton we pride ourselves on our personalised approach, supporting all students, working as one team in our positive community.



**Mrs Jess Leonard**  
Principal



“The culture at Walton is one of excellence and kindness.”



## Life at Walton

At Walton, our aim is to lead excellence in 'The Walton Way' by providing an exceptional educational experience. We are a high performing academy where every student is encouraged to achieve their full potential.

In addition to exceptional teaching, we take a holistic approach to character education to ensure each student develops as a well-rounded, resilient, and responsible citizen who is fully prepared for their next steps.

We are a member of the PiXL network and are one of only ten secondary schools nationwide chosen to be a beacon of excellence for the 'Them and Us' programme.

Through this programme, we instil the qualities of kindness, character building and respect throughout the student body. The intention is that every student who becomes aware of these issues could make a difference locally, both in the academy and the community. It has the potential to lay the foundation for a change in society itself where 'having a mind to be kind' might become the norm.



## Our academy ethos

### EXCELLENCE

Surpasses ordinary standards.

“Excellence is doing ordinary things extraordinarily well.”

### COURAGE

Courage doesn't mean you don't feel fear – it means you don't let fear stop you.

“I haven't failed I have just found 10,000 ways that didn't work.”

### COMMITMENT

Dedication, taking responsibility. Commitment is pushing yourself when no-one else is around.

“Commitment is the glue that bonds you to your goals.”

### OWNERSHIP

Taking responsibility. Control of your destiny.

“You are responsible for the talent that has been entrusted to you.”

# Curriculum

All students will follow our LORIC curriculum – leadership, organisation, resilience, initiative and communication. These skills are intended to prepare students for the next stages in their educational journey and the world of work.

We offer a rich and varied curriculum in year 7, 8 and 9, in the core subjects of English, maths and science, as well as a range of other subjects such as philosophy and ethics, drama, dance and music, the visual arts, humanities and modern languages.

In year 10, students then specialise in four subjects in addition to their core studies, following a wide range of inspiring courses such as triple science, health and social care, dance, drama, humanities, philosophy and ethics, and food and nutrition.

We ensure that students can follow a variety of combinations of courses, including access to the English Baccalaureate (Ebacc). And we have a dedicated team of staff who work closely with students who may need more one-to-one tuition in order to build their confidence in literacy and numeracy.

We also cater for our gifted and talented students by running trips to university campuses to give them the chance to see higher education in action. Other events include writing workshops, Latin, and visiting scientists and performers.



## The 3Rs

At Walton, we have high standards and these are matched by equally high expectations in terms of student behaviour and attitude. All students are expected to adhere to the Walton 3Rs:

Ready

Respectful

Responsible

## Sixth Form

We have a dedicated sixth form centre at the academy, housed in its own building. The high expectations and inclusive ethos at year 7-11 is embraced in post 16 study, whilst encouraging independence. We have a hugely talented team of teachers relentlessly monitoring the high quality of lessons, as well as a caring pastoral team who help students make those all-important decisions about the future.

For more information, visit  
[www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form](http://www.walton-ac.org.uk/sixth-form)

# Enrichment and personal development

At Walton we have a tradition of offering high quality opportunities and activities beyond the curriculum. There is an extensive menu of extracurricular activities on offer, including exceptional arts and sporting provision with opportunities to take part in workshops and field trips.

We also offer students the chance to experience different cultures and experiences through our range of national and international trips and visits to educational venues linked to curricular areas.

## Clubs

Our lunch and after school clubs cover a diverse range of activities to help students develop their skills and talents. These include dance, musical theatre, maths problem solving, board games, table tennis, badminton, writing, photography, the academy orchestra and many more.

## Trips and visits

Our students take part in a range of visits, such as theatre trips, visits to exhibitions and museums, higher education visits, residential trips, overseas trips, sports fixtures, STEM visits, Debating Society, visits to planetariums and the Houses of Parliament, and voluntary and community outreach.

## The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE)

We are proud to be part of the DofE scheme and offer students the opportunity to achieve the bronze level award. These awards are highly regarded by universities and employers alike. Taking part in the DofE awards provides our young people with essential life skills, leadership skills and training, volunteering opportunities and team working skills.

## STEM enrichment

The academy provides a wide range of opportunities for students to explore STEM activities, such as visits to planetariums, workshops with trainee astronauts, and attending the Royal Society Christmas Lectures. STEM clubs such as the CREST award and High Flyers Club are always popular and well attended by students in all year groups.

## Charity and community work

Our students are encouraged to support local and national charities. Each year, we raise and donate money to numerous worthy causes, including cancer charities, Red Nose Day, Children in Need, and local charities, such as hospices and community organisations. Speakers are often invited in to present their personal experiences to our students who then raise funds for these specific good causes. Over the years, Walton students have raised many thousands of pounds for these fantastic charities.



# Support and guidance

## Pastoral care

At Walton, we pride ourselves on the pastoral care offered to students. Our pastoral system is operated through our four houses – **Belton, Belvoir, Burghley** and **Irnham**. Houses are run by heads of house and form tutors, enabling students to quickly access a support network of staff who will be familiar to them throughout their time at the academy. We use vertical tutoring, designed to allow students to make friends in all year groups. Tutors meet with their tutees daily. There is an opportunity to get to know each other, talk about issues, set targets and discuss progress.

## Wellbeing

Throughout the academic year, we deliver a complete safeguarding and wellbeing curriculum to students through PSHRE and computing lessons, tutorial time, assemblies, and 'Life Skills' and 'Choices' days. The curriculum includes e-safety, the importance of sleep, wellbeing, healthy relationships and road safety, to name just a few of the topics.

## Student leadership

We encourage students to support one another during their time at Walton, and ensure our students have a voice. We offer a number of opportunities for students to take on leadership roles, such as Head Girl and Head Boy, Deputy Head Girl and Boy, and as ambassadors for kindness, STEM, sports, the environment and to champion mental health. Students can also join the Student Council to help shape and influence activities at the academy.

## Careers

At Walton, we are proactive in ensuring all students engage with a comprehensive programme of careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG). Importantly, this meets and exceeds Department for Education professional standards of practice, is catered to individual students and is impartial. It is based on a partnership with students and their parents or carers. Our careers programme starts right from year 7 and continues into sixth form.



“We encourage students to support one another during their time at Walton.”



“ My child’s tutor understands everything about my child. ”  
*Year 7 parent*



“ Positivity, passion and enthusiasm amongst all the staff. ”  
*Year 7 parent*



“ My son has grown in confidence both socially and academically. ”  
*Year 7 parent*

“ Walton has made my daughter feel comfortable from the very start. ”  
*Year 7 parent*



# Admissions

It is a big step starting a new school, especially in year 7.

The transition to Walton has been designed to be as smooth as possible. If your child is allocated a place here, they will be assigned to a vertical tutor group of 20-25 students, and will quickly develop friendships and form a team ethos. They will also be invited to Walton's transition week.

During transition week, students learn more about Walton by taking part in lessons and extracurricular activities. Transition week allows students to get to know each other and the staff who are going to be working with them. It is an exciting week and gives the students a real flavour of life at the academy.

## How to apply

To apply for a place at Walton, parents and carers will need to submit an application to Lincolnshire County Council by the published deadline. The application process for year 7 normally opens in August each year, closing in late October, with offers made to families in the following March.

Further details of how to apply can be found on the 'Admissions' section of our website: [www.walton-ac.org.uk](http://www.walton-ac.org.uk)

If you have any questions at all about applying to Walton, please do not hesitate to contact us:

Phone: **01476 563251**

Email: [enquiries@walton-ac.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@walton-ac.org.uk)



## Diverse Academies

Walton is part of the Diverse Academies Trust – a group of academies committed to the development and improvement of schools through collaboration and partnership. Our core focus is the achievement and development of each individual student. We have an established framework of core principles and practice to which all academies subscribe, whilst maintaining and developing each academy's unique identity and individual characteristics.

For more information, visit [www.diverseacademies.org.uk](http://www.diverseacademies.org.uk)



Diverse Academies



Walton Academy  
Harlaxton Road, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG31 7JR

Phone: **01476 563251**

Email: **[enquiries@walton-ac.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@walton-ac.org.uk)**

**[www.walton-ac.org.uk](http://www.walton-ac.org.uk)**

Diverse Academies Trust (Old Hall Drive, Retford, Nottinghamshire, DN22 7EA; registered company number 07664012) is a not for profit charitable trust with exempt charity status, registered in England and Wales.