



THE
BRITTONS
ACADEMY

2024
2025




Ofsted
Good
Provider

WELCOME



It is with great pride that I introduce myself as the new Principal of The Brittons Academy. After four years at the academy (two of those as Vice Principal), I am excited to have been given the opportunity to build upon the successes and achievements of the last few years.

Having spent my entire career in education, I am passionate about the transformative power a first-class education can hold for young people. Every student who enters our academy has the potential to excel and you have my commitment, along with that of the wider staff team here at Brittons and the Empower Learning Academy Trust, that we will ensure a culture of excellence enables our students to become the best they can be. Students will be supported to enjoy academic success whilst also ensuring they grow into kind, respectful, happy and healthy young citizens.

Brittons has been on an impressive journey of improvement over the last few years culminating in Ofsted recognising us as good in all areas. We now embark on the next stage of the journey as, whilst good is indeed good, we strive to be the

best that we can be, offering the highest quality provision that is the absolute entitlement of our young people.

We are a school who values its place in the local community and we aspire for Brittons to become the academy of choice at the heart of the community it serves.

In our most recent Ofsted report you will read how “Pupils are proud to attend a school that has improved so much” and that “Pupils are unanimous in their praise of staff” as “Staff care about pupil’s wellbeing”. We, in turn, could not be prouder of our students and look forward to welcoming your child into the Brittons family.

Mrs C Whiley, Principal
The Brittons Academy

CEO’s Welcome

We are proud that The Brittons Academy is part of our family of local schools and shares our ethos of continuous improvement, where powerful teaching, challenge, support and accountability lie at the heart of creating environments that focus relentlessly on the needs of the learning community and deliver outstanding outcomes for all pupils.

At Empower Learning Academy Trust, we have a clear sense of purpose: to inspire our family of schools to provide opportunities for our pupils, staff and leaders to be the best they can be; to create a passion for lifelong learning; and to enable our pupils to become kind, confident and impactful world citizens.

All academies in our Trust have been judged to be ‘Good’ or ‘Outstanding’ by Ofsted and all embody our collective values of passion, respect, inclusion, challenge and openness.

Simon London, CEO.



VALUES

Life at Brittons is underpinned by our core PRIDE values. Students are encouraged to take PRIDE in all that they are and all that they do. Students adopting our core values develop the pre-requisite personal skills, mindset and drive which will enable them to excel in life beyond formal education. We expect our students to be:

Positive
Engage and show an eagerness to succeed

Respectful
Treat others in the way you wish to be treated

Independent
Be courageous and think for yourself

Determined
Everything depends on how determined you are to succeed

Excellent
Be the best you can be

OUR CULTURE

Our core moral purpose is to transform life chances. We believe in every child's ability to excel and we will support, challenge and motivate each and every one of our students to become 'Brittons Best'.

We make no apologies for our high standards with regards to personal conduct and how students represent the Brittons community in their uniform and whilst out in the wider community. We consistently expect the very best from our students in order for them to grow, over time, into the best possible version of themselves, achieving great success.

At Brittons, we value and prioritise learning time. Students are expected to maximise the positive impact of their learning by meeting our FAIR expectations:

Follow instructions
the first time, every time

Arrive on time for lessons
prepared and ready to learn

Involve fully in lessons
contribute and give your best

Respect others
and our school environment

CURRICULUM

From the first day of Year 7, through to the last day of Year 11, we pledge to engage students in a curriculum which will equip them with:

- The **academic knowledge** they need to make progress in every subject, every lesson, every day
- The **social and cultural knowledge**, understanding and appreciation to empower them as active participants in life; as opposed to bystanders
- The **personal employability skills** needed to gain meaningful, enjoyable and satisfying employment, therefore sustaining the quality of life they desire
- The **academic qualifications** they need to ensure the widest range of post-16 choices and opportunities remain open at the end of Year 11

Key Stage 3

All students, regardless of starting points, experience a broad, balanced and ambitious curriculum in line with the National Curriculum. The acquisition of knowledge and skills in each subject is carefully and deliberately sequenced and planned to build confidence and expertise over time.

The development of excellent essential skills in literacy, oracy, numeracy and IT skills is prioritised throughout the Key Stage 3 curriculum.



Key Stage 4

We are proud to offer all students extensive information, advice and guidance as they transition from Key Stage 3 to 4. All students gain GCSEs in English (Language and Literature), Mathematics and Science (Combined Science).

In addition, all students are expected to take part in Core PE lessons to support healthy habits and wellbeing. PSHE lessons also remain a highly important part of the timetable with a focus on building resilience, managing the natural and inevitable challenges of life and forming healthy relationships.

In addition to this core provision, students will be supported to select option subjects appropriate to their interests, abilities and post-16 aspirations. Students will be guided to select options that offer the best possible chances of success in order to facilitate a smooth transition into further education or apprenticeships, and eventually, university and/or employment.

PSHE Key Stage 3 & 4

As well as developing knowledge and skills in a wide range of academic subjects, our discrete PSHE curriculum focusses on the wider holistic development of our young people.

Whilst exploring a range of personal, social and health issues, we encourage students to ask deep and meaningful questions about their own worlds and the lives that we share. We aim to develop attitudes of thoughtfulness and confidence about themselves – skills which are invaluable as they face the issues that are present in 21st century living. Students will build a mindset of curiosity, draw links and critically analyse information that they receive – invaluable skills in an ever-evolving world.

Further details regarding the curriculum in individual subject areas can be found in our Curriculum Year Books on our website.

Home Learning

At Britttons, we believe that independent learning at home plays an important role in ensuring our students know more, remember more and are able to do more throughout their time here and beyond.

All home learning will be purposeful and deliberately planned to enhance and consolidate students' in-school learning. Home learning will:

- **Retrieve and consolidate prior learning**, helping students commit to memory core knowledge, concepts and terminology
- **Prepare students** to engage more productively in lessons e.g. a pre-reading task to build knowledge prior to discussion or commencing a new topic
- Develop excellent communication skills through a mastery of higher level and **subject specialist vocabulary**
- **Extend and enrich** students' knowledge
- **Build effective routines and strategies** for independent study/revision

Students are able to access support with homework through our regular Homework Club or they can make use of the library facilities at break, lunch and after school if they are in need of a quiet place to complete independent learning.



Supporting and Accelerating Learning

All students across the Empower Learning Academy Trust benefit from having free Microsoft accounts which allow them to work seamlessly between home and school. Students will be supported to become confident in accessing and submitting assignments through Microsoft Teams and both students and parents will be able to keep track of timetables, homework deadlines and other important information and notices via our Edulink app.

Students are provided with the opportunity to accelerate their progress in English, Maths and Science through regular use of our Sparx Reader, Sparx Maths and Sparx Science online platforms. This is an incredible resource supplementing and enhancing the curriculum and one we encourage all students to make use of outside of the classroom.

Here at Brittons, we maximise the time in which we can be learning each day. During morning Form Time, students in all years engage in a rotation of sessions carefully designed to strengthen those skills essential for excellent progress in all areas as well as gaining an understanding of wider current affairs and topical issues.



Whilst academic learning is important, we wholeheartedly believe in the wider development of our students as individuals forging their way in an ever-changing world. We know how important it is to guide our students to understand the world around them and to develop a strong moral compass which will enable them to participate successfully and with kindness in that world. There is much more to school than academic learning and exams.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development is the overarching term used to embrace this broader personal learning. It is developed throughout the curriculum, during a weekly Form Time bulletin and discussion, assemblies, charity and guest speaker events, workshops and a wide range of co-curricular experiences. All subjects provide opportunities to promote our students' SMSC development.

Spiritual development

Spiritual development involves developing a sense of self, our unique potential, our understanding of our personal strengths and weaknesses, and what motivates us to achieve. We consider our place in the world and try to answer some of life's fundamental 'big questions'. Spiritual development is about acquiring the skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes needed to secure a sense of non-material wellbeing.

Moral development

Moral development is focused on acquiring an understanding of the difference between right and wrong and of moral conflict, a concern for others and the will to do what is right. We learn to reflect on the consequences of human choices

and explore the concepts of justice and forgiveness. Ultimately, moral development is about securing the knowledge, skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes needed in order to make responsible moral decisions and act on them.

Social development

Social development involves gaining an understanding of the rights and responsibilities associated with being a member of families and communities (be those local, national or global), and developing the ability to relate to others and to work with others for the common good. Developing our social awareness allows us to feel a sense of belonging and see what we have to offer society. Social development supports students to gain the knowledge, skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes needed to make an active contribution to the democratic process in each of the communities they exist in.

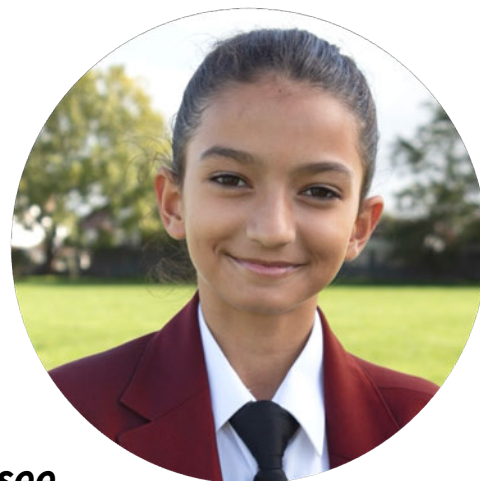
Cultural development

Cultural development is about celebrating and valuing our own individual cultural identities whilst learning to understand and respect other people's values and beliefs. It's also about having the opportunity to participate in, and respond to, a range of artistic, musical, sporting, mathematical, technological, scientific and cultural opportunities. We live in an ever-changing world, that can be complex and confusing at times.

Cultural development supports us to build the knowledge, skills, understanding, qualities and attitudes which enables us to better understand how factors such as faith, ethnicity and socio-economic status affect how people think, act and live on a local, national and global level.



Central to everything we do as we prepare our students for future success is the firm belief that every young person needs high-quality career guidance to make informed decisions about their future. We are driven by an unofficial little motto, ***'If you can't see***

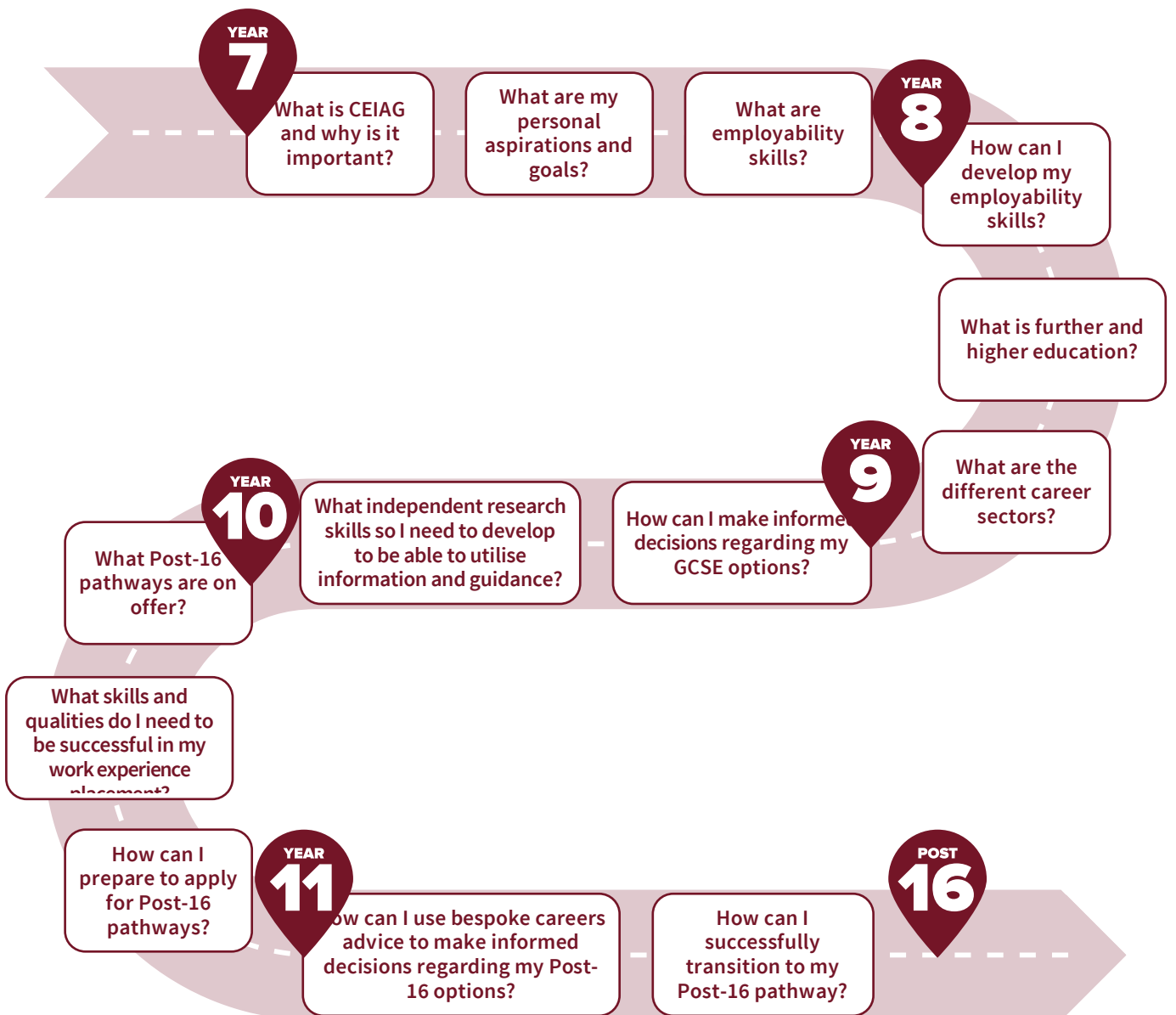


it, you can't be it'. Put simply, we believe that it is our duty to expose young people here at Brittons to the plethora of education and career pathways and opportunities that exist for them in order for them to be able to make informed decisions for a successful future. CEIAG (Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance) is a priority from the very first day of Year 7 to the very last day of Year 11 as our students benefit from our excellent CEIAG curriculum.

Our students benefit from a range of well-established partnerships with Russell Group universities, independent careers advisors and Work Experience as well as events such as our annual Careers' Fair, National Careers' and Apprenticeship weeks.

We are also proud to be the first school in the Trust to secure Skills Builder accreditation. We are currently a silver status school but looking to secure our gold status at the end of the academic year. This will be a recognition that all students, in all years, in all areas of the curriculum and wider school life have consistent opportunities to develop a range of employability skills. Developing these employability skills will ultimately help our students stand out from the crowd and excel in a competitive employment market.

All students at Brittons develop skills in the following areas:



CARING

Brittons has, for a number of years been a small school with a big heart. Whilst we are enjoying watching our roll increase, the 'heart' is not something we will compromise on as high quality pastoral care is something we are passionate about at Brittons.

Students in each year group benefit from the support of their own Pastoral Team consisting of:

Form Tutors

Each day starts with 30 minutes in Form Time, other than Wednesday when it is 10 minutes.

Support and Guidance Manager

These are non-teaching staff who are available to support students at all times of the day.

Head of Year

These members of staff ensure that attendance, punctuality and behaviour lead to excellent progress.

SLT Link

Each year team and the quality of care and support students receive is overseen and supported by its own dedicated member of the Senior Leadership Team.

We also have our outstanding SEND team, mentors and academic tutors supporting students needing any additional support, especially during the transition from Year 6 to 7.

You are never on your own at Brittons – we're all here to help.



Co-Curricular Provision

At Brittons, we are committed to the holistic development of our students. Whilst we strive for academic success for all our students, we recognise they should also have opportunities to shine beyond the classroom. This is why we strive, year on year, to continuously expand our co-curricular offer.

These opportunities outside of the classroom contribute to the development of personal skills essential for success, such as leadership, teamwork, communication and resilience.

In recognition of the many individual strengths and interests of our students, we offer a wide range of clubs, activities and opportunities throughout our school year. Students may choose to hone their practical skills with the Art or Technology departments; represent the school in one of our sport teams; take up singing or instrumental tuition or link up with fellow film buffs at our weekly Film Club.

Student Leadership

We pride ourselves on the positive relationships students build with staff here at Brittons. We value their opinion and listen closely to ensure we are offering them an excellent experience.

Each Form group in the academy elects a Form Representative who is key to ensuring, via the Student Council, that student voice is considered as we make important decisions and plans.

We recognise the value of young people taking on responsibility and acquiring excellent leadership skills. To facilitate this, each year, we appoint Head Students who lead our Prefect Team. Our Prefect Team play a leading role in life at Brittons, supporting staff and events and, of course, acting as shining examples of

**Excellence
in all that we do**