



Guilsborough Academy

Guilsborough Multi Academy Trust



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Welcome to our School



Mr S Frazer. B.Sc. (Hons)
Principal

At Guilsborough Academy we believe that learning should be enjoyable and challenging. This belief, combined with the excellent teaching skills and commitment of our staff, the enthusiasm and hard work of our students and the support of their parents/carers, lies at the heart of our success.

We are passionately committed to the achievement of every individual student and to providing high standards of teaching and learning. Our reputation with the local and wider community rests on consistently providing quality education for students of all abilities, which we have now done for over 60 years.

We are very proud of our students and their achievements and would like to invite all prospective parents/carers and students to visit us on our Open Evening or attend Musical and Dramatic performances; this is the best way to experience the ethos and family atmosphere of the academy.



"I felt a little nervous at first, but I realised I was completely fine and it is really fun."

Sustained Success

We are passionately committed to the achievement of every individual student and to providing high standards of teaching and learning.

Our reputation with the local and wider community rests on consistently providing quality education for students of all abilities.



Excellent academic achievement comes from motivating students to engage in lessons, challenge their knowledge and encouraging the fulfilment of their academic potential.

Our school's results consistently exceed national benchmarks and our students go on to study in our successful Sixth Form and top universities across the country.

Whilst we are justifiably pleased with our examination record it is important to mention that we are not an 'examination factory'. As a school we place a great deal of emphasis on students participating in a wide range of extra-curricular activities and enjoying both their studies and all the other opportunities on offer at Guilsborough Academy. We want students to enjoy, participate and achieve at school, and to develop high self-esteem.



"Pupils feel safe and are safe at school. The leaders responsible for keeping pupils safe carry out their roles very effectively, ensuring that they and the rest of the staff are kept up to date with the latest statutory requirements."

OFSTED

Learning without Limits



The Academy will develop and sustain:

- Highly effective governance as a converter academy
- A safe, inclusive community for all students
- Outstanding attendance, punctuality and behaviour
- Outstanding attainment and progress
- Outstanding teaching and learning
- An inspiring, inclusive, innovative curriculum
- Enrichment opportunities for all students
- A good relationship with parents/ carers and our community

"My transition to school was great. Going to school is fun because it feels so much more organised."



"Students take pride in their school. They are friendly, polite and courteous."

OFSTED



Our community is predicated on mutual respect through tolerance, trust and honesty. We have high aspirations for all and develop resilience to overcome any obstacles which might stand in our way. We take responsibility for our actions to ensure we are working positively together. We appreciate others by the strength of character they show and seek equality for all.

Respect

We respect ourselves and others by the actions we take and the responses we make. We take pride in ourselves, our appearance and our work. The Academy is a welcoming and positive place where we work together for success. We celebrate achievements and value everybody. It matters that we are approachable, honest, thoughtful, polite and considerate.

Aspiration

We aim high by setting ourselves challenging goals and having the highest expectations of ourselves and others. We achieve this through forward planning, hard work, self-motivation, and perseverance. In empowering and inspiring others, we become a stronger team, able to achieve more than we realised possible. When encountering obstacles, we show resilience, strength of character and determination in order to achieve our ambitions. Through this we grow and flourish into confident individuals, which allows us to achieve our dreams and aspirations.

Responsibility

We take ownership for our actions. We encourage an ethos of mutual responsibility whereby every member of our learning community supports each other.

Equality

We value the opinions of all others in our community. We actively celebrate diversity and the contributions we all make to our society. We are committed to equal opportunities for all. We want Guilsborough Academy to be a place where all people thrive - physically, mentally, socially, spiritually and economically.



“Outcomes for students have remained above the national average.”

OFSTED

A Supportive Community

“I have enjoyed my transition into year 7 because the teachers and students are a lot nicer.”

We have a strong school community underpinned by our Year Teams. Our dedicated Year Teams are supported by committed form tutors, student support team and Heads of Year who work with students on a daily basis providing help and guidance in order for students to be successful in school, as well as outside of school.

Form tutors will see students daily and keep an eye on their general welfare, their organisation and their academic progress.

The students are further supported by a range of mixed-age activities across the school including paired reading, subject mentoring and an excellent mentoring programme led by many of our sixth form.

Students can take part in Year Voice and be part of the senate. In this way they are encouraged to express their views and shape the future of the school.

Please also see Care and Guidance page 24.

Bringing learning Alive

At Guilsborough we passionately believe in developing a lifelong love of learning to allow our students to leave as confident, independent learners, ready to face the challenges of living in the 21st century.



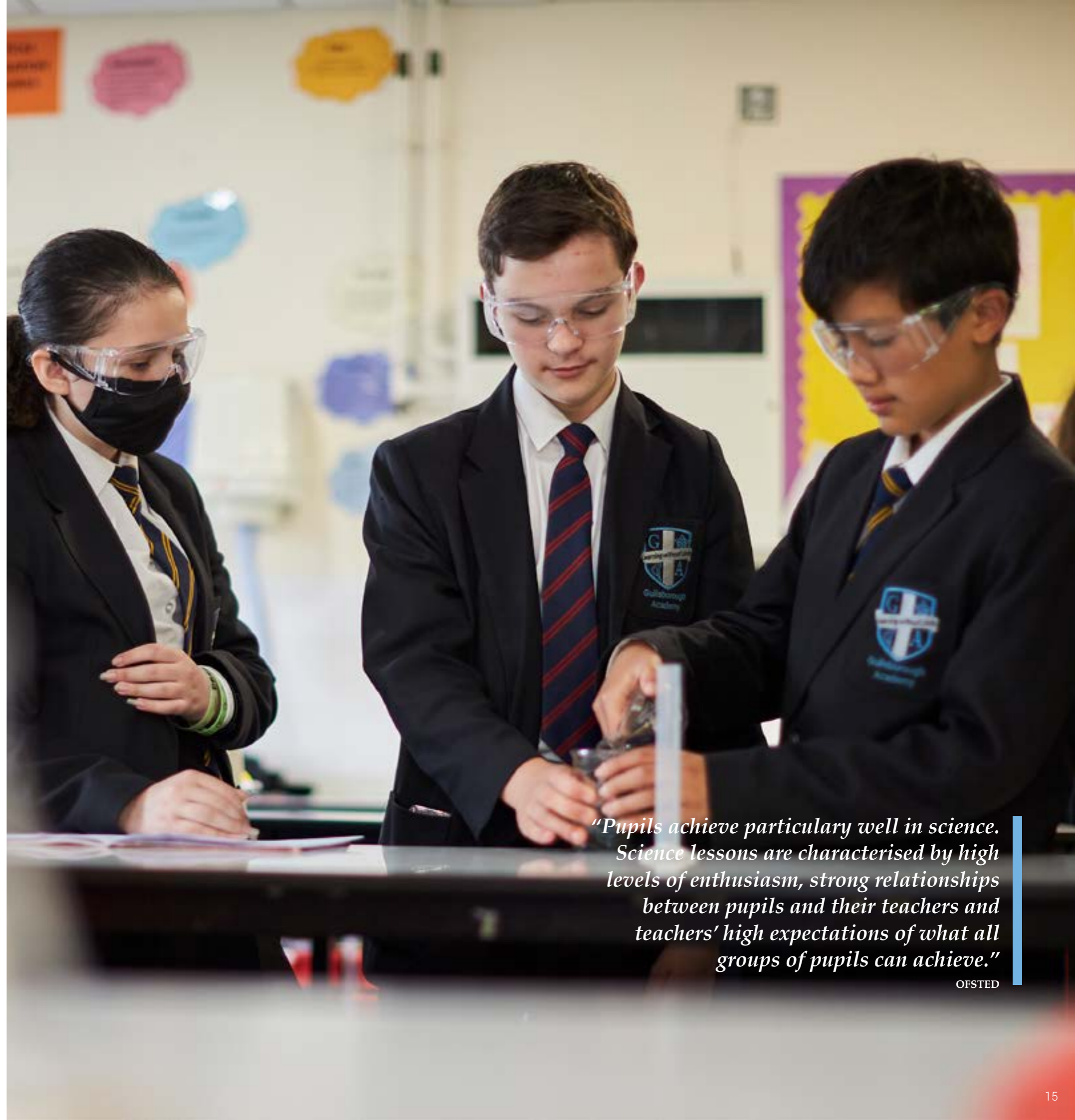
We seek to develop more than merely academic qualifications in the classroom by providing a broad and balanced curriculum delivered through an innovative range of teaching techniques.

As a result Guilsborough students will not be passive learners, but will be encouraged to become both active and independent learners in order to provide them with the skills and knowledge to thrive in the modern workplace.

This independence and adaptability is further strengthened through the teaching of spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness which forms a core theme and is delivered throughout the curriculum both inside and outside of the classroom.

Whichever pathway our students choose to pursue, the key skills developed at Guilsborough will leave them well placed to fulfil their potential.

"I've enjoyed secondary because I've made new friends."



"Pupils achieve particularly well in science. Science lessons are characterised by high levels of enthusiasm, strong relationships between pupils and their teachers and teachers' high expectations of what all groups of pupils can achieve."

OFSTED

Our Curriculum

Our curriculum is the whole range of learning opportunities that students have access to throughout their years at Guilsborough. We aim to make this exciting, challenging and fun so that all students develop the knowledge, skills and interests that will enrich their lives.

The Curriculum (in the classroom)

We constantly review and develop our curriculum so that students have access to subjects that will maximise their learning and future options. We have developed pathways to match need and aspirations.

Our KS3 includes all of the core and foundation subjects including English, Maths, Science, ICT, PE, MFL, Performing Arts, History, Geography, RE, DT and Art to give a broad and balanced learning experience for all.

At KS4 additional subjects are offered such as Business Studies, Health and Social Care, Media Studies and BTEC Sport. At KS5 additional subjects include Sociology, Psychology and Further Mathematics.

Extra Curricular

There is an incredibly extensive range of clubs and activities that are offered at lunchtime and after the school day.

It is hoped that students take part in at least one of these activities which are essential parts of their learning; developing skills, extending talents and building character. Sports, Music, Drama, Board Games and ICT feature very strongly in these clubs and the opportunities are extensive where all interests are catered for.

All students have the opportunity to take part in Drama and Music productions. There are visits and trips locally, nationally and internationally that all students can take part in eg: Skiing, World Challenge and Sport Tours.

There are also subject visits for subjects such as Languages, Physical Education and Humanities. All of these are true learning and development opportunities for students – as well as great fun.



"My transition from primary to secondary was fun. I've made new friends and met lots of new teachers. My past couple of weeks have been fun because I got to cook in food tech and go to do maths on the computers."



Beyond the Curriculum

Being a global citizen is central to our aims at Guilsborough Academy. To this end we provide our students with as many opportunities and experiences to enable each individual to develop this skill.

Whether this be through our extensive education visits programme or through visiting speakers or business and enterprise representatives. Through these experiences and many others, our students understand what it is to be part of a global community, understand British values, appreciate diversity and accept the views of others.

We are proud of the quality of opportunity we offer our students in a wide range of activities including sport, drama, debate, music, art and design technology. Leadership is a crucial aspect of student development within the Academy. Our

Leadership Programme combines with teaching and learning, literacy and goal setting to ensure the students achieve their potential and develop as role models for others. Our older students can also engage in a variety of leadership opportunities from our Senior Ambassadors and Senior Leaders, our Year Voice and Academy Senate and our numerous opportunities in volunteering within the Learning resource centre, within lessons and to help others within our Academy community.

A key focus of the school year is the annual production, which showcases the outstanding abilities of our musicians and actors, technical and ICT teams.



Fantastic Facilities

Guilborough Academy has fantastic facilities to support learning through and beyond the curriculum.



The Music and Drama suite includes the Studio, practice rooms and two Apple Mac ICT suites to support learning. In the sixth-form media studies studio we also have Apple Mac recording facilities.

An extensive range of sports is offered, from rugby, netball, cricket and football to trampolining, basketball, aerobics and gymnastics.

Students from Year 9 are given a choice of options to help them develop a sporting interest for life. Team sports are very successful with the school a frequent winner in local sporting leagues.

There are 2 drama studios, DT equipment, multi gym. sports hall and gymnasium with 35 acres of fields. There are several different canteen facilities across the school.



We have invested heavily in our facilities over the past 12 months. We have recently opened our £1.4 million Business, Economics, Psychology and Sociology Centre as well as investing over £400,000 in a new Food and Nutrition classroom and a fantastic ICT classroom, fitness suite, changing rooms, and toilets.



“Sixth form students make a very strong contribution to whole-school behaviour and safety...They are excellent ambassadors for the school.”

OFSTED

A Successful Sixth Form

Every year our students achieve very highly and we encourage and support students to aim for and attain places at top universities. We also provide strong support for alternative routes to higher qualifications post 18.

Our main aim is for each of our students to reach their potential and to be well-prepared for the future. To achieve this, we provide a secure and supportive environment; our students benefit from expert teaching and individual advice and guidance from experienced and caring staff. This is supplemented by an extensive enrichment programme.

Our sixth formers have privileges and are treated like mature young adults, but we also have high expectation of them as the eldest students and as role models for the younger students in the academy.

For further information see separate Sixth Form prospectus on the website.



Guilsborough Academy Sixth Form



"I thought I was going to make no friends, but I actually loved coming here and have made loads of new friends."

Care and Guidance



In order to create an outstanding climate for learning. We want our young people to be happy, cared for and well supported so that they are able to flourish in the classroom. We have therefore put in place a system of student support care that is proactive in its approach to provide the support and guidance that our students deserve.

Alongside the Year Teams we have an excellent student support team. A full time dedicated team of non-teaching staff are committed to supporting students with a wide range of social and emotional needs.

The student support team work closely with the Heads of Years to match and signpost the most effective agencies and support workers for the students. This may include access to a counsellor, behaviour management support, Art Therapy, CAMHs or Self Esteem workshops.

The student support team are also on hand to deal with first aid and medical needs. They rigorously support work with Child Protection and other safeguarding agencies working with our safeguarding hub.



Caring and responsible attitudes and behaviour are fostered through a strong personal and social education programme and all students take part in community projects.

"My transition to secondary has gone really well. I have made lots of new friends and I have really enjoyed being a part of Guilsborough. I love my tutor as we always have laughs."

Learning Support

We have a strong tradition of supporting the inclusion of all young people in our local community. We aim to provide the best learning environment for all young people including those who may have individual needs.

During their time at school some students will have special needs which may relate to learning, health or emotional factors. We do our best to respond to each student's needs, and use a variety of resources and strategies for this purpose.

We operate a flexible system which supports both students and staff in a variety of ways. There is in-class support for specific needs, out-of-class intervention, specific learning resources to support needs, frequent professional development for staff to enhance

knowledge and understanding of learner needs and tailored curriculums.

We also enlist the professional expertise of a full-range of outside support agencies and hold regular meetings between these agencies, teachers and parents in relation to particular students' needs. In addition, we use a student-centred review format where students take a full and active role in identifying steps to develop and make progress, in order to become more self-confident and independent.

"The school's provision for disadvantaged pupils benefits from the excellent leadership. No stone is left unturned by the senior leader responsible for supporting those pupils."

OFSTED





Admission Arrangements

Admission Arrangements

Prospective parents and their children are always welcome to make an appointment to come and look around the academy and each year we hold an open evening in the first part of the autumn term. Unfortunately due to COVID this year will be a virtual event. Each year a number of students join us from Northampton, Daventry, Brixworth and further afield.

The admission number for September 2023 will be 238 to accommodate demand for places. This is achievable due to a new building due completed in 2021.

Places will be allocated to pupils who have a statement of special educational needs that names the school as appropriate provision. When there are more applications for places than there are places available, priority will be given in the following order:

1. Children in public care (looked after children) or previously in public care.
2. Children of staff at the school:
 - a) where the member of staff has been employed by Guilsborough Academy for one or more years at the time at which the application is made, and/or
 - b) Where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is demonstrable skill shortage.
3. Pupils who live in the linked area associated with the Academy.

Arthingworth, Buckby Wharf, Clay Coton, Clipston, Cold Ashby, Coton, Cottesbrooke, Crick, East Farndon, East Haddon, Elkington, Great Creaton, Great Oxendon, Guilsborough, Haselbeck, Holdenby, Hollowell, Hothorpe, Kelmars, Lilbourne, Long Buckby, Marston Trussel, Naseby, Ravensthorpe,

Sibbertoft, Spratton, Stanfordon Avon, Sulby, Teeton, Thornby, Thorpe Lubenham, Watford, Welford, West Haddon, Winwick, Yelvertoft.

4. Pupils who have a brother or sister continuing at the Academy at the time of admission.

5. Pupils attending the designated contributory primary schools and continuing in attendance until the final offer of places is made: Clipston, Crick, East Haddon, Great Creaton, Guilsborough, Long Buckby, Maidwell, Naseby, Spratton, Welford Sibbertoft and Sulby, West Haddon, Yelvertoft.

6. Other pupils.

Distance tiebreaker
If the admission number is exceeded within any criterion, priority will be given to those who live closest to the school using NCC's GIS (geographic information system).

Transition Programme for Year 6 Students and Parents

At the beginning of the autumn term, all Year 6 students will receive a letter via their primary school to enable an application form to be completed online.

There is a programme of events to allow parents and students to see the Academy. The first event is our Virtual Open Evening which is held in October with presentations by the Principal and subject teachers.

There are close liaisons with Year 6 students at our partner primary schools:

- All successful Year 6 students are invited to spend a day at Guilsborough.
- A Parent Induction Evening is arranged in the summer term.
- There are opportunities for students to visit the academy

for a variety of activities throughout the year.

- During the summer term, Guilsborough Academy staff visit each school to meet Year 6 students.

Parents of students who are joining the academy from outside the catchment area will be notified of these dates.

Other New Admissions

- In the case of transfer requests for year groups other than Year 7, parents should contact the Admissions Team at Northamptonshire County Council at www.northamptonshire.gov.uk and follow the links to complete the application form or call them on 0300 126 1000
- Where families move into the area, we are pleased to make individual arrangements to meet personal needs. A visit to the academy can be arranged. Please telephone the academy office for an appointment.
- Please can we request that parents contact the academy well in advance particularly if they wish their child to start in September. Late applications may result in arrangements not being in place for children to start at Guilsborough on the first day of term. This also applies to late entries for Year 6.

For more information on admissions
www.guilsborough.northants.sch.uk/about-us/admissions



Guilsborough Academy

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