

# Corby Business Academy



Sixth Form



*A valued member of the*

**Brooke Weston Trust**





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## Welcome from the Head of School

I am delighted that you are considering joining our Sixth Form for the next two years. Studying with us at Corby Business Academy will provide you with high-quality teaching and allow you to experience many outstanding opportunities.

As you contemplate options post-GCSE and Level 2 studies, there are a wide range of choices available. Choosing a Further Education institution and subjects can feel daunting at this important time, please ensure you take advantage of the experienced and knowledgeable staff at the Academy. We are passionate about ensuring students have all the information required to make informed decisions about their future.

At Corby Business Academy you have an opportunity to join a Sixth Form that can offer students:

- High-quality teaching & learning
- Excellent facilities
- Outstanding student care and guidance
- Exceptional preparation for a university or career based pathway

For those who choose to study with us, I am certain that our growing Sixth Form provides a wealth of benefits. Last academic year 85% of our students acquired a place at their first choice university. We also have an ever-increasing range of destinations for students who want to join the world of work.

Students are always the focal point at Corby Business Academy. Every decision is centred on maximising their potential and opening up a lifetime of opportunities. Ofsted findings

confirm that students receive an excellent provision. Staff at the Academy are passionate about academic success and achieving outcomes that reflect students' potential.

Should you choose to study with us, you will be encouraged to work hard and expectations are high. However, you will be supported in every element of Academy life; this includes a highly planned and effective induction process that allows students to quickly settle and focus on their studies.

Please ensure you take time to gain as much information as you need, our dedicated team of staff can support with any enquiry. I hope you choose to join us at Corby Business Academy and look forward to being part of your journey towards success.

**Simon Underwood**  
Head of School



Corby Business Academy is part of the Brooke Weston Trust; a network of schools which includes five secondary and five primary schools. The Brooke Weston Trust has a reputation for delivering high-quality education in order to help every child flourish. The benefits of the Trust include the sharing of staff expertise and offering a wider variety of opportunities to students through joint ventures.





## Welcome from the Head of Sixth Form

Here at Corby Business Academy we provide our Sixth Form with a high-quality and exciting curriculum, which includes both academic and vocational courses. Our detailed tutor programme offers challenge, individual development and pastoral support.

The Academy encourages students to take part in enrichment activities. These will include, among others, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Literacy and Numeracy Mentoring, Young Enterprise and the Extended Project. Our aim is for all students to gain the skills, qualifications and experiences to make the best possible transition to higher education or the world

of work. They will be guided through their time with us by a dedicated team of staff who will support and encourage them in every element of Academy life.

We have high expectations of all Sixth Form students. We expect them to inspire the lower school and to lead by example. There will be opportunities to have an impact on the wider life of the Academy through the roles of Head Boy and Girl, as a member of the Forum or Senate, leading assemblies and presenting to smaller groups of younger students.

As a Sixth Form student you will be expected to work hard inside and outside lessons, conduct independent research and show commitment to the Academy's community. In return, we will give you every opportunity to achieve your academic potential and ensure you are fully equipped for the next stage of your life.

**Sam Anderson**  
Head of Sixth Form

## Sixth Form at Corby Business Academy

### The Sixth Form is characterised by:

- Ambitious leadership and processes which embody the Academy's aim that everyone can achieve high-quality outcomes.
- High aspirational targets for all students.
- Close monitoring and information for students to ensure achievement and progress.
- Courses to suit a range of destinations and pathways.
- Excellent academic standards of teaching and learning.
- Structured support to enable all students to achieve their maximum potential.
- Independent high-quality Careers Education, Advice, Information and Guidance (CEIAG) that encourages students to aim high.
- A range of enrichment opportunities to promote personal, spiritual and cultural development.

### Dress code

Many students will be working alongside employers both in and outside the Academy so smart office wear must be worn (further details will be obtainable via the Academy's website).

Students are expected to attend for the full Academy day, which means they can take advantage of the facilities, resources and help on offer.



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"Sixth Form students' behaviour in lessons and around school is good. Students are confident and self-assured. They are extremely proud of their school."

Ofsted Inspector



# Choosing your course

Post-16 education is a crucial time in your life. What you decide to do now will have an impact on your opportunities in education and employment for many years to come. The best general advice is to choose subjects that you enjoy and can be successful in. It is very important that you choose courses at an appropriate level for you.

At Corby Business Academy we offer a range of academic and vocational courses. An options booklet detailing courses on offer is included with this prospectus.

Entry to the Sixth Form will depend on a number of factors, including performance at GCSEs and equivalent examinations. All potential Sixth Form students are invited for an interview with the Head of Sixth Form or a member of the Senior Leadership Team, where choices are discussed and options explored.

The final confirmation of the course offer will be subject to timetable arrangements, viable teaching groups and entry requirements being met.



“Relationships between staff and students in the Sixth Form are positive and students feel confident to seek advice and help from the teachers.”  
**Ofsted Inspector**



# Every student matters: Destinations and support

## Personal Tutorial Support



Sixth Form students are allocated a Personal Tutor who they meet with on a daily basis. They review their targets, attendance and discuss career aspirations. All students follow a comprehensive tutor programme aimed at developing personal qualities, including independent thinking, problem solving skills, debating techniques and in-depth preparation for university or career pathways.

## Tracking progress



The Head of Sixth Form oversees student performance. Data is used to help set students challenging and achievable targets. Progress reports are sent out throughout the year, which are discussed with Tutors.

Parents/carers are encouraged to make contact following the report to discuss individual progress. Formal consultation evenings and general communication are also used to ensure information is shared.

## Careers and destinations



In Sixth Form, all students have access to external employers and university networks. In Year 13 students are given additional support regarding future aspirations and career progression. Tutorial sessions are provided to help students with the UCAS application process or those who wish to transfer to a job with further training.

The Academy also employs the services of a local careers advice company, Timely Advice, to support students in both the transition into Sixth Form and the later move into university or work.

## Business links



We offer unique opportunities to Sixth Form students to enable a better insight into the world of work and develop the skills that employers value. For example, we have strong links with major international businesses. All students take part in mock interviews with business representatives to give them experience of a professional interview.

Students also have the opportunity to work on a one-to-one basis with a Business Mentor. This professional relationship can support the student in gaining valuable experience of the business environment.

## Corby Business Academy meets the needs of a wide range of Sixth Form students

At the Academy we have provision for students with profound and multiple learning difficulties. The Unit supports students to have a range of learning opportunities and develop skills towards independent living. Awards accreditation follows modules that include employment, living in the community and enterprise. In addition, there is a strong focus on practical work experience and supporting the transition to college.



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“The school provides good advice and support for students regarding their next steps. For example, students are supported in applying for university places and understand the variety of options available to them.”

Ofsted Inspector







**Ofsted**

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“Students value the opportunity to act as mentors to younger pupils and recognise the importance of this role.”


Ofsted Inspector

# Enrichment


## Head Boy and Girl

 Our Head Boy and Girl are proud ambassadors of Corby Business Academy, who represent the Academy at events and open evenings. The roles are appointed following applications and rigorous interviews. The Head Boy and Girl lead the Senior Student Team.

## Senior Student Team

 This is a select group of Sixth Form students who take a proactive role in Academy life, such as sitting on the Forum groups for the younger years, regular tutor group visits in Years 7-11 and supporting Academy events.


## Senate and Forum

 The Sixth Form Forum provides an excellent opportunity for


students' views to be heard and help bring about change. A number of Forum representatives are then chosen for the Academy Senate – aims for debate can be curriculum, enrichment or passion based.

In addition, Sixth Form students have supported students in the Unit, helped with fundraising and social activities and been involved in Years 7-11 sporting events.

## Peer mentoring


 Sixth Form students are regarded as role models for younger students and are expected to make a positive contribution to Academy life. They support younger students through the Literacy and Numeracy Mentoring programme, as well as GCSE tutoring.

## Business and Enterprise


 Sixth Form students can develop their entrepreneurial spirit through a variety of business challenges.

An exciting scheme, which the Academy has achieved great success in, is the Young Enterprise Project. Our Sixth Form students have created their own companies and have learnt through real life business situations. Working with mentors from local companies is the perfect opportunity to see an entrepreneurial dream become reality.

## Community involvement

 As a Business Academy we are asked to support local organisations and activities taking place in the community. Visits and representation at events is an important element of Sixth Form life.


## The Extended Project

 The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is a freestanding qualification that allows students to select a topic and carry out detailed research into that particular area. It is equivalent to 50% of an A-level qualification.

It requires self-discipline and independent research in an area of students' own choosing, which may be an academic field or other focus of interest.

It is designed to develop learners' critical, reflective, problem-solving and independent learning skills. The Extended Project supports students with the transition into higher education or the world of work. An Extended Project Qualification can often be a 'stand out' element of any CV.


## Duke of Edinburgh's Award

 The DofE Award encourages students to have self-belief, confidence, independence, responsibility and the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised award. These qualities help students' progress to the next phase of their education or career path. The four areas of the award are: Physical, Skills, Volunteering and Expedition. Each area challenges the students in a different way and ensures they develop employable skills.

## Work placement

As part of the Sixth Form enrichment programme, students are able to make use of our business links to undertake periods of work experience. Work placements in school also help students develop invaluable skills to support their personal and professional development.

## Paid work at Corby Business Academy

 There are opportunities for paid employment at the Academy, with Sixth Form students working as reception staff, sports co-ordinators and supporting site staff.

At Corby Business Academy we believe in offering our Sixth Form students a host of different experiences to help them develop as confident, able young people who manage the transition between school life and adulthood with ease.

Each student is expected to be involved with extra-curricular activities and the opportunities on offer.



# Student voice



**George Slater**  
Year 13

**Studying**  
A-level Art, A-level Maths and A-level Physics.

**Ambition after Corby Business Academy**  
To go to university to study Architecture.

**Career ambition**  
To work as an architect.  
  
‘My confidence has really grown while studying at the Academy. I have improved my presentation skills through the many opportunities I’ve been given to present in front of an audience. There is a real sense of community within the Academy. The students are willing to learn and the teachers are always happy to help.’

**Tijana Karan**  
Year 13

**Studying**  
A-level Further Maths, A-level Maths and A-level Physics.

**Ambition after Corby Business Academy**  
To go to university to study Maths.

**Career ambition**  
To work in a career related to maths.  
  
‘At the Academy I really like the support given to students and have benefitted from the one-to-one sessions

after school. I was part of a group of Sixth Form students that set up a ‘Girls Only’ Physics club. We were able to practice our practical skills and it really helped encourage the younger female students to engage with the subject and taught me key leadership skills.  
  
Taking part in the Extended Project Qualification has also helped me to become more independent and prepared me for university.’

**Finlay Panther**  
Year 13



**Studying**  
A-level Further Maths, A-level Maths and A-level Physics.

**Ambition after Corby Business Academy**  
To go to university to study Accountancy or Economics.

**Career ambition**  
To work in Accountancy.  
  
‘I really like the learning and teaching methods used by the teachers who clearly explain the topics. If you have an idea the leadership team will always encourage you to take this forward.  
  
The subjects are more complex at A-level so ask if you are unsure as the teachers are incredibly supportive.’

**Sophie Sheen**  
Year 13



**Studying**  
A-level Chemistry, A-level English Literature and A-level Psychology.

**Ambition after Corby Business Academy**  
To go to university to study Pharmacy or Chemistry.

**Career ambition**  
To work in the Pharmaceutical Industry.  
  
‘I would love to work in the laboratory, researching and testing new cures for diseases. I would find it hugely rewarding to make a difference to peoples’

lives and it would be exciting to work with cutting-edge equipment and technology. During my time at the Academy I have learnt perseverance and independence. The staff have taught me to push myself to achieve more than I ever thought I could. Whilst we receive lots of support, we are taught to try things for ourselves first. Teachers are always willing to help and will stay after school to help during their free period. The efforts the staff go to inspire students to work hard to get the best results possible.’

**Macaulay Nichol**  
Year 13



**Studying**  
A-level English Language and A-level English Literature, A-level Media and BTEC Business.

**Ambition after Corby Business Academy**  
To go to university to study International Business, specialising in Global Business Consultancy or International Trade.

**Career ambition**  
To work as an EU Negotiator, arranging new trade deals globally for the UK.

‘I am very interested in politics and would love to work in foreign countries travelling worldwide. During my time at the Academy I have learnt so much and developed lots of new skills, particularly my confidence. I like the community atmosphere in the Academy. In the Sixth Form area all the students work together, encourage each other and help one another. I advise new Year 12s to keep challenging themselves to beat their target grades, you may surprise yourself.’

**Eden Northover**  
Year 13



**Studying**  
A-level English Literature, A-level History and A-level Psychology.

**Ambition after Corby Business Academy**  
To go to university to study English.

**Career ambition**  
To work in the Publishing or Marketing Industry.  
  
‘I have developed key time-management skills during my studies at the Academy which have

helped prepare me for university. My peers and teachers are all incredibly supportive and there is real community spirit which has helped me stay motivated throughout my time here.  
  
The biggest step up from GCSE to A-level is the amount of revision required and homework. Make sure you keep on top of it by using your frees wisely and then it is manageable.’



# Our alumni



## Charlotte Bean

The former winner of the Student of the Year accolade left Corby Business Academy in July 2013 after getting top marks in her A-level studies. Charlotte studied history, English and media and has recently graduated from Sheffield University with a 2:1 in history and English.

“I found the jump from GCSE to A-level studies quite big and this definitely prepared me for my university studies.

The way we focused in on subjects during A-level gave me research and analysis skills that were really useful within my degree.

I really enjoyed my time at the Academy as the teaching staff were extremely helpful and would always do all they could to support you.

It was during Sixth Form that I really found my love of history and this is a field in which I want to pursue a career. I had always thought that I wanted to go on to teach, which is something I would still like to do, but first I would like to work as a curator.”



## Steven Forsyth

The mechanically minded student left Corby Business Academy in 2013. Steven completed a mechanical engineering with industry degree at the University of Leicester. He then took part in a year long placement with Nissan Technical Centre and is now working for the company.

“I studied physics, maths, history and business at Corby Business Academy and found all the staff incredibly supportive. The Academy also organised visits to universities that were very helpful because they really helped me to prepare for university.

As part of my degree I took part in a year in industry at Nissan Technical Centre Europe, which I chose to do because I believed a year’s experience would greatly increase my chances of employment.

The major benefits of my placement year include the facts that I was paid for the experience and I have had the chance to travel to Slovakia, Germany, and France.

Overall, my time spent at university has been very positive and I have grown as a person through the variety of challenges and experiences they have presented. I have met many people who will be lifelong friends and useful contacts for my future career.”



## Ksenija Nazarova

This talented student completed a Masters degree in general linguistics and comparative philology at Wolfson College at Oxford University.

Ksenija took a year out of education after earning a First in English language and communication and psychology BSc at Oxford Brookes University. She hopes to go on to study at PhD level and would like to become a university linguistics lecturer. She left Corby Business Academy in the summer of 2012.

“I really enjoyed my time at university and made lots of great memories. The workload got heavy as the dissertation deadline approached but I must say all the statistics knowledge I learned during my A-levels at Corby Business Academy really helped when I was analysing my data.

My advice to any student considering Corby Business Academy Sixth Form would be to choose subjects that you are interested in and are passionate about and to put in your best effort.

The Academy helps you to take on extra responsibilities. As well as studying for my A-levels, I worked as a classroom assistant and also as a volunteer helping students with their English.”



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“Learning and progress in the Sixth Form are good. Carefully chosen and varied activities promote independent thinking and enquiry well. All the students who applied, gained places at their first choice universities.”

Ofsted Inspector





## Corby Business Academy



Sixth Form

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