



Corby Business Academy



*A valued member of the*

**Brooke Weston Trust**





# Welcome

As Associate Principal it is an honour to introduce you to Corby Business Academy. An academy where every member of the community contributes and aspires to be the best they can; an academy which is proud to be part of the Brooke Weston Trust, a leader in education.

We are committed to giving your child the best possible learning experience, valuing each individual and the skills they possess. At Corby Business Academy we work hard to support students in becoming the contributors of the future, to believe in themselves, to have dreams and take risks. We are fully committed to challenging and inspiring young people with our high aspirations and expectations. Expectations both within the classroom where they are challenged to deepen thinking and push themselves outside of their comfort zone; and outside of the classroom, where they are encouraged to take part in numerous extra-curricular activities.



At the core of our curriculum are the learning needs of our students, providing them with breadth and developing their skills. Our aim is to make sure that each child leaves our school with a choice, a choice to follow the path they choose and not to feel limited. Being part of the Brooke Weston Trust gives our students access to various initiatives and connections with local businesses and organisations. This, along with our business and enterprise specialism, means that we are able to nurture and develop work-related skills that give our students access to future successes in an ever-changing world. In addition, our positive relationships with higher education establishments and universities mean our students also have access to these routes.

At Corby Business Academy we pride ourselves on our exceptional standards of care and guidance and ensure that no child goes unseen. Our standards are such that we have an excellent reputation for the provision and support which students receive in our care. We believe in nurturing students' talents and in working closely with parents to develop a partnership that supports students in their personal and academic development. Our dedicated staff work in collaboration with students to raise their academic attainment and foster a love of learning.

We hope that, as you read our prospectus and learn more about who we are, that both you and your child are inspired and they want to begin their learning journey with us and be part of our community.

**Janina Taylor, Associate Principal**





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# Our vision

Our vision is to instil ambition, commitment, courtesy and courage into each of our students and give them the skills and opportunities to excel.

As an organisation we ask 'What would I want if this was my child?' and challenge ourselves with this question when we consider our aspirations and our support for every one of our students.

At Corby Business Academy the expectations and self-esteem of students and staff is high. Everyone has a 'can-do' attitude and works constructively with others. Our students respond to this trust and the faith that we place in them.

**The Academy seeks to become a Centre of Excellence in everything it does.**

## At Corby Business Academy:

- Students and staff strive to become the best they can
- Students develop the confidence to be active citizens in their community and the wider world
- The qualities of enterprise and initiative are encouraged among students and staff alike
- Students and staff work in a safe and comfortable environment
- Every student will achieve the best academic outcomes possible

## These aims will be achieved through:

- Developing a full range of learning and thinking skills
- Connecting the academy to the real world of work wherever possible
- Offering a wide range of subjects and enrichment activities
- Demanding the highest standards of presentation for students and staff alike
- Nurturing partnerships with, and providing recreational services to, the local community





# Our building

We are very proud of our building and facilities. Corby Business Academy has impressive sports facilities and pitches and the building is arranged with separate faculties radiating from a central mall. It has been designed to ensure maximum visibility and cohesiveness, so that we are all part of one learning community. Each of the main faculties has a central seating area and glass-fronted classrooms. **The facilities are:**


## Art, Music and Industrial Design (AMID)

 The AMID faculty is home to the disciplines of Art, Music and Design and Technology and boasts the latest equipment that you would expect to find in any modern creative or technical business, such as Apple Mac software, 3D printers, heat and plastic machines plus a large workshop.

## Communication (COMM)

The COMM faculty is home to English, Media and Drama. It includes a drama suite and a media editing suite complete with Apple iMacs.


## Business, Humanities and Enterprise (BHE)

 The BHE faculty is the centre of the academy's Business and Enterprise learning, alongside Humanities and Modern Foreign Languages. It includes two dedicated ICT suites and nine teaching rooms.


## Mathematics and Information Technology (MAIT)

Mathematics, ICT and Computer Science are taught within this faculty, which includes three ICT suites and dedicated Mathematics rooms.


## Physical and Natural Sciences (PNS)

 The PNS faculty is home to Science, Physical Education, Sports, Dance, Psychology and Health and Social Care. It includes science laboratories and a mirrored dance studio.


## Library

 We have a really well stocked and resourced library and dedicated library staff who support all aspects of our learning and run trips, visits and quizzes so that our students are encouraged to have a love of reading and literature. We are very proud that our Librarian, Amy McKay, was awarded the amazing accolade of School Librarian of the Year in 2016 and the work she and her colleagues do with our students is much appreciated.

## Restaurant

 Our restaurant seats 240 people and serves high quality, nutritional breakfast and lunches.

## Theatre

 Our professional theatre is the venue for presentations, meetings, concerts and Prize giving and is an integral and much-used resource in the Academy.





## Our school day

### Uniform



Like the best businesses, the academy has high expectations and these standards carry through to uniform requirements. Students wear a professional-looking black and green uniform from Years 7 to 11, while there is a formal office dress code for Sixth Formers. Details of the dress code required for study and sport are included on our website.

### Timings



School is open from **8.00** to **5.45** and there are after school sessions running from Monday to Thursday.

Each day is split into four sessions including time for breakfast and lunch. Movement between faculties is kept to a minimum to maximise learning time.

### Smartcards



Every student has their own smart card which acts as an automatic register when used through the swipe system in the main reception. It also means that only students, staff and authorised visitors can enter the building. Smart cards can also be credited with money for use in the restaurant

### Restaurant



All students have the option of having a cooked or continental breakfast each morning and hot or cold meals at lunchtime. Our in-house catering company provides healthy, freshly-cooked food. We have a trained nutritional advisor who works on site to ensure government guidelines on nutritional standards are always met. We also source food from local suppliers, including the academy's own allotment. Students use their smart cards to pay for meals and the balance can either be topped up in school or via an online payment system.

### Transport



Currently the local authority supplies free transport to students in Years 7 to 11 who live within the academy's designated villages or in Corby itself. Northamptonshire County Council, which supplies the free transport, reviews this policy on an annual basis. Separate consideration is given to students with Special Educational Needs and is determined on an individual basis.

Post-16 students using local authority transport will have to pay for the cost of their travel. There is also a public bus service to the academy. The academy currently operates a late bus service to Weldon and Corby from Monday to Thursday inclusive. Students need to book places on these late buses on the day of travel.



# Curriculum Years 7 – 11

The broad and balanced curriculum at Corby Business Academy is designed to support both personal and academic development. Our Business and Enterprise specialism plays an important part in helping to prepare students for further education, the world of work or enabling them to establish their own business with every prospect of success.

Business and Enterprise learning skills are implemented across the whole curriculum and are visible throughout the entire academy. These comprise independence, teamwork, creative thinking, reflection and self-management. To promote these skills at an early stage we have introduced business lessons at Key Stage 3 (KS3) to help establish really strong foundations for the courses offered at Key Stage 4 (KS4).

Our personalised curriculum is designed to match the needs of students and, as a result, our range of examined courses changes each year.



**KS3** At Corby Business Academy we recognise the importance of developing high level literacy and numeracy skills and so all subjects delivered at Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8) have a focus on the development of these core skills.

At Key Stage 3, all students study English, mathematics, science, active (physical education), design and technology, modern foreign languages, business, history, geography, computer science, art and music. Religious education and personal, social and health education are taught through the tutor time programme and assemblies.

The academy's aim at Key Stage 3 is to give all students the opportunity to work to their full potential at a speed that matches their ability. Success by the end of this key stage gives students the greatest opportunity to excel during Key Stage 4 (Years 9, 10 and 11) and Key Stage 5 (Sixth Form). Our provision of a truly personalised curriculum at Key Stage 3 has resulted in an accelerated and condensed key stage so that the majority of students start Key Stage 4 courses (GCSE-level subjects) in Year 9.

**KS4** At this key stage students continue to follow a core curriculum with a choice of three optional subjects. All are given the opportunity to undertake GCSEs, BTECs and other non-GCSE courses.

There are various routes that students can opt for at Key Stage 4, depending on their Key Stage 3 outcomes. However all students will complete a 'core' suite of qualifications comprising GCSE maths, English and science. The vast majority will also select a GCSE from a core option block made up of computer science, French, Spanish, history and geography. If appropriate, some will be guided to select a non-GCSE qualification in IT. Two further option blocks allow students to select two other subjects from a broad range including art, French, music, resistant materials, drama, sport, dance, business, fashion and textiles, film studies, health and social care, history and psychology.



# Sixth Form

Our mission is to develop a thriving Sixth Form in which students are equipped with the right skills to ensure success in their next steps, whether that is higher education, apprenticeship or employment.

**Our Sixth Form is characterised by:**

- High levels of achievement for all students
- Courses which reflect our Business and Enterprise specialism and which are appropriate to the needs of students
- Rigorous standards of learning, teaching and assessment
- Structured support to enable all students to achieve their maximum potential
- Career education and guidance so that students are encouraged to aim high
- Rich opportunities for personal, spiritual and cultural development.

We offer a range of A Level courses and vocational Level 3 courses. All prospective students are interviewed to identify the best possible combination of courses to meet their individual needs.

In Years 12 and 13, we are able to offer a range of AS/A Level and Level 3 BTEC courses. As with Key Stage 4, our range of courses changes each year to respond to the needs of the students that will allow them to specialise in areas of interest that they may wish to study at university. We aim to ensure that all students progress to university, further training or employment.

Each student is expected to get involved with extracurricular activities and the opportunities we offer can help them to develop transferable skills and stand out from the crowd when it comes to university or job applications. These opportunities include the Young Enterprise scheme, the Extended Project, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, volunteering and mentoring younger students.

Our Sixth Formers act as role models and take an active role hosting various school events. Students who have been in Year 11 in the Unit Provision can continue their education in the Sixth Form, following life skills-related courses with continued help and support.





# Enrichment & learning outside the classroom – Session 6

At Corby Business Academy we offer a variety of extra-curricular opportunities to ensure that our students are well rounded individuals who develop both academic and personal skills. From their very first day in Year 7 they are encouraged to have a 'can-do' attitude and get involved in academy life. There are more than 50 after-school clubs including archery, sewing, science, trampolining, cricket, Bake Off, Commando Joe's, fitness bootcamp and Lego club. Several of our older students help run these activities.

## Sports



Leading a healthy lifestyle is encouraged at the academy and our successful sports teams, including rugby, trampolining, softball, rounders, girls' and boys' cricket, athletics, tennis, netball and football, demonstrate our students' commitment.

## Music



More than 150 of our students now play an instrument and there are lots of opportunities for our musicians to perform in school shows as well as at community events and further afield. Groups include the award-winning Senior Concert Band, CBA Vocalize, steel pans and the Junior Concert Band.

## Trips and Residential



Enrichment trips give students an opportunity to apply skills learned in the classroom. These include a geography trip to Skegness an MFL trip to Barcelona, English at Stratford-Upon-Avon, art in London and music at Nevill Holt Hall.

## Forum/Senate/Leadership opportunities



Our students help to shape life at the Academy by joining their year group Forum, which elects members to the Academy Senate. The senate, which was awarded platinum status, meets termly with the Principal to feedback students' views and implement ideas. Corby Business Academy is committed to hearing the opinion of its students and additional meetings are also held so that those outside the Forum and Senate can also voice their views. A student survey is completed at least once a year.

Other leadership roles comprise Head Boy and Head Girl, the senior team of students and various committees including to organise fundraising and the prom. The academy also works with partners to encourage students to participate in volunteering opportunities.

## Combined Cadet Force



Our Combined Cadet Force meets at Corby Business Academy each week and draws its recruits from all the Brooke Weston Trust secondary schools. Those who secure a place with the CCF take part in a broad range of activities that not only gives them a great foundation for entry into the uniformed services, but also helps to build their team work, problem solving, stamina, self-discipline and confidence. Each cadet will attend at least one camp in the year and there are many other courses and activities available that run after school and at weekends.



# Care, welfare & inclusion for all

Corby Business Academy is committed to supporting the needs of all learners, and providing appropriate challenges at all levels, such as those with special educational needs to the more able. Fully differentiated lessons mean that all students can challenge themselves to reach their full potential.

## Unit Provision



The Unit Provision is where some of our students with an Education Health Care Plan for severe or moderate learning difficulties and those with complex additional needs are taught. There is also a place-limited ASD base to support students with an Education Health Care Plan whose needs mean they are unable to access mainstream education.

If appropriate, inclusion into mainstream is supported and students access whole school events and the tutor programme. Classes are taught by specialist teachers, who provide highly differentiated lessons and multi-sensory approaches, to address the needs of all.

Older students are able to experience off-site activities and, if appropriate, attend college for one day a week which gives them a taste of life outside school and helps to prepare them for the world beyond.

## Special educational needs



Students with Special educational needs are monitored carefully by the SENCO to ensure that appropriate progress is made at all times. We work hard to agree programmes with students and work in close partnership with parents.

Provision for students may involve:

- In-class support
- Individual support
- Group work
- Differentiated curriculum
- Key Stage 3 intervention

## Literacy support



Corby Business Academy is committed to raising the literacy levels of all students through a variety of tailored resources, such as Accelerated Reader and Key Stage 3 students all have allocated library time.

Where a need for additional support is identified, students will be invited to attend small group intervention. Additional support is also available during our Session 6 provision.

## More able students



More able students are those that are identified as exceeding, or having the potential to exceed, age-stage expectations. They are offered a wide variety of opportunities within the Academy's normal teaching that ensures differentiation across the curriculum so they have appropriate challenge and extension. They can also access further enrichment activities to boost their performance. Regular tracking is in place to ensure that all students continue to exceed age-stage expectations. A senior leader oversees the More Able Students' programme and parents will be invited to a workshop to find out more about how they can support their child's learning.

## Student care and guidance



We pride ourselves on our student care and have three dedicated staff who work with students on wellbeing issues. The wellbeing team is on the front line of communication with parents, having an overview of student life both in the academy and in the community. We also have a healthcare assistant who is able to administer medication to students. These staff work closely with parents and liaise with outside agencies when necessary.

## Monitoring progress



We offer a broad range of personalised support to our students, coupled with close monitoring of their academic progress. Academic mentoring is carried out by Directors of Learning, tutors, senior staff and Sixth Formers, particularly in Key Stage 4, to support students in their challenging GCSE years.

Personal tutors act as students' first point of contact and will monitor, support and influence their progress, performance and good behaviour. Where concerns arise Directors of Learning work with students to develop personalised intervention strategies.

## A safe environment



As members of the Safer Schools Partnership we have access to various youth organisations that enable us to keep up-to-date with issues affecting young people. Being a member of the Partnership means that the academy has its own designated Police Community Support Officer.

In conjunction with other agencies, Corby Business Academy offers an online reporting system, Sharp, which allows students to confidentially report any issues they may have in school or the community.

When behaviour is a barrier to progress, the academy will implement its discipline process. We will not allow behaviour to impede learning. Ultimately if a student does not meet the standards set, the academy will use permanent exclusion.







## Community links

Corby Business Academy has forged strong links with some major international companies affording unique, real-life learning opportunities for our students.

Key partners include RS Components, who provide a mentoring service for selected students, and Rockingham Speedway, which has collaborated on various business projects and provides rewarding experiences for hard-working students. Students can also access work experience and special projects and, very often, their ideas help to develop new concepts for established companies.

Our links with local businesses have enabled us to offer mock interviews and CV clinics where students are able to have their CVs critiqued by business owners who offer advice and feedback.

Community values and considerations are at the heart of our philosophy. We are focused on giving our students opportunities within the Academy, the local community and wider world to help them become active citizens.

### Our governing body

Our governing body is dedicated to the success of Corby Business Academy and works closely with staff and partner organisations to ensure we achieve our aims and objectives.

### Monitoring progress

Corby Business Academy is committed to working with families and keeping parents and carers up-to-date with their child's progress.

A parents' evening is held once a year for each year group, except Year 7 which has two parents' evenings, including one in the first term so families can get to know their child's form tutor. Parents can also speak to a form tutor or the Director of Learning on a daily basis.

Options information evenings are held for Year 8s and their families in Term 5 to discuss GCSE options.

Parents and carers also receive reports four times a year that outline what level their child is working at and what they are expected to achieve. Where students require additional support to reach their academic targets, subject teachers or Directors of Subject will contact parents directly.



### News and information

Letters from the Principal are sent home on a regular basis and we also operate an email system which enables easy communication between the Academy and parents.

Information is also available on the academy's website, [www.corbybusinessacademy.org](http://www.corbybusinessacademy.org), including restaurant menus, letters to parents, calendar dates, policies, bus routes and times and links to the academy's portal so that students can access their work from home.

Our magazine, In Press, is produced three times a year with news and information about life at Corby Business Academy.

### Parent survey

Annual parent surveys consistently show very high levels of satisfaction with the standard of education provided at Corby Business Academy.

### Policies

Our policies, including those on safeguarding, behaviour, attendance, classroom practice and admissions are available to view at [www.corbybusinessacademy.org](http://www.corbybusinessacademy.org)



# Careers guidance

We have expert independent careers advice through Timely Advice. The careers officer is regularly in school to support students in planning for their next steps. Timely Advice also organise some bespoke work experience to help bridge the transition between the world of school and work.

# Admissions



Corby Business Academy will consider all applications for places. We take students from Corby, Priors Hall and the surrounding villages.

Where fewer than 200 applications are received, the academy will offer places

to all those who have applied. When more than 200 applications are received and after the students with Education, Health and Care Plans where Corby Business Academy is named on the plan have been admitted, all other applicants will undertake a suitable cognitive ability test. This is used to ensure that the academy admits an intake that is representative of the national ability range and is comprehensive in intake. For more details on the admissions process visit [www.corbybusinessacademy.org](http://www.corbybusinessacademy.org)











## The Brooke Weston Trust



Hugh de Capell Brooke



Garfield Weston

The Brooke Weston Trust is a family of primary and secondary schools in Northamptonshire and Cambridgeshire. All our schools work hard to provide the best educational opportunities and life chances for the young people in their care. As a Trust we seek to 'make a difference' and are proud to work with children of all backgrounds and abilities. Our staff challenge themselves with one question every day by asking 'is the service I am providing good enough for my own child?' When the answer is 'yes', we are pleased, but not complacent, when it is 'no' we leave no stone unturned to make rapid improvements.

The Trust is founded on five core values which are: Ambition for All, High Expectations, Excellent Teaching and Support, Working Together and Contributing to Society. The values direct every area of our work from every classroom to the board room.

Our fantastic young people are at the heart of everything we do. Life in each school is very busy and everyone can also take part in Trust-wide activities including trips, curriculum days and Trust competitions that are great opportunities for making friends from other schools and sharing learning, new experiences or sporting success.

We promote a strong culture of professional collaboration amongst our staff that ensures the most appropriate and skilled people within the Trust are involved in key decision making and supporting other colleagues. Being part of a multi-academy Trust gives all our employees greater access to a wide range of high quality training and experience of working in very different educational settings.

The Trust's daily operation is underpinned by a small but dedicated Central Team delivering core services such as finance, IT, estates management and welfare.

Brooke Weston Academy at Great Oakley in Northamptonshire was our founding school and our sponsors, Hugh de Capell Brooke and Garfield Weston, were instrumental in bringing high quality, innovative state-funded education to the area. The Trust continues to enjoy the support of their families who retain seats on the board and are represented by Alexander de Capell Brooke and Guy and George Weston. Brooke Weston Trust was established in 2008 and is led by Dr Andrew Campbell.

### Primary Schools

- ▶ Beanfield Primary School
- ▶ Compass Primary Academy
- ▶ Gretton Primary School
- ▶ Oakley Vale Primary School
- ▶ Peckover Primary School

### Secondary Schools

- ▶ Brooke Weston Academy
- ▶ Corby Business Academy
- ▶ Corby Technical School
- ▶ Kettering Science Academy
- ▶ Thomas Clarkson Academy







**Corby Business Academy**

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