



Corby Business Academy



A valued member of the

**Brooke Weston Trust**





# Welcome

Thank you for your interest in Corby Business Academy. We are delighted that you are considering sending your child to our Academy, a place where each student and staff member is valued as a part of our community and encouraged to always aim high.

We have a dedicated and experienced team of staff that is committed to giving your child a high quality educational experience as well as nurturing their individual skills and aspirations. We work hard to ensure that our students have the best teaching and learning opportunities, excellent facilities and a full range of extra-curricular activities that run alongside academic studies.

Our curriculum provides students with opportunities to make academic progress and gain confidence. During their time with us they will be challenged with work that is tailored to their ability levels and encouraged to meet or exceed expectations.

Students will access high quality information and guidance about subject options at GCSE, A Level and career pathways that can be pursued. Their classroom experiences will be supplemented by educational trips and visits that broaden knowledge of their subject areas and equip them for life beyond the academy.

Our role as educators is to ensure that the children have the best possible learning and life experiences that nurture both their academic qualities and enable their unique personalities to develop.

We are proud of the exceptional facilities on offer at Corby Business Academy and are established members of the Brooke Weston Trust. This means we have the support of a well-established organisation that educates thousands of students

in Northamptonshire and Cambridgeshire. Our students attend inter-Trust activities, such as educational visits, sports competitions and the Combined Cadet Force. These additional components mean they can access opportunities and forge friendships at other schools.

We are delighted to introduce our brand new leadership team, comprising Heads of School **Nicola Treacy** and **Simon Underwood**, who will be working alongside the Trust's secondary Executive Principal **Anne Hill**. They are a knowledgeable and experienced team who are looking forward to taking Corby Business Academy onto the next phase of its development. To read more about their individual professional expertise and collective ambitions for the school, please visit our website [www.corbybusinessacademy.org](http://www.corbybusinessacademy.org).

**We look forward to welcoming your child to our Academy.**



**Anne Hill**  
BWT Secondary  
Executive Principal



**Simon Underwood**  
Head of School



**Nicola Treacy**  
Head of School



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# Our vision

Our vision is to instil ambition, commitment, courage and courtesy into each of our students and give them the skills and opportunities to succeed. As an organisation we ask 'What would I want if this was my child?' and challenge ourselves with this question when we consider areas of strategy and aspirations for our students.

## At Corby Business Academy:

- Students and staff strive to become the best they can
- Students develop the confidence to be active citizens in 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
- Having the highest expectations of students and staff alike
- Nurturing partnerships with the local community



# The Academy building

We are very proud of the Academy building and our facilities. The site has impressive sports facilities 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.

## Facilities:

### Art, Music and Industrial Design (AMID)

 The AMID faculty is home to the disciplines of Art, Music, Textiles, Photography and Design Technology. It 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 (COMMS)

The COMMS faculty houses 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, Active Dance, Psychology and Health and Social Care. It includes science laboratories and a mirrored dance studio.

### Library

 We have a well stocked and resourced library and dedicated library staff who support all aspects of learning. They organise literacy trips, author visits and quizzes throughout the year so that our students are encouraged to develop a love of reading and literature.

### Restaurant

 Our restaurant seats 240 people and serves high quality, nutritional food at both breakfast and lunch.

### Theatre

 Our professional theatre is the venue for presentations, assemblies, concerts and special events. It is an integral and much-used resource in the Academy.





# Curriculum Years 7 – 11

Our broad and balanced curriculum is designed to support academic and personal development. Our Business and Enterprise specialism plays an important part in helping to prepare students for further education or the world of work.

Business and Enterprise learning skills are implemented across the whole curriculum and are visible throughout the entire academy. These promote independence, teamwork, creative thinking, reflection and self-management.

The personalised curriculum caters for the needs of all students and is tailored to their levels of ability.



**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 areas of the curriculum.

At Key Stage 3, all students study English, Mathematics, Science, Active (physical education), Design Technology, Modern Foreign Languages, Business, History, Geography, Computer Science and Music. Currently Religious Education and Personal, Social and Health Education are taught through the tutor time programme and assemblies.

At KS3 the academy's aim 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 at Key Stage 3 has resulted in an accelerated and efficient curriculum, this means students start Key Stage 4 courses (GCSE-level subjects) at the start of Year 9.

**KS4** Key Stage 4 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 Level 2 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. One selection is from a Core Option block. If appropriate, some will be guided to select a non-GCSE qualification in IT.

Two further option blocks allow students to select from a broad range of academic and creative subjects.

## The 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 school dress code required for study and sport can be found on our website.

### Timings



School is open from **8.00am** and there are after school sessions running to **5.00pm** on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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.

### Restaurant



All students have the option of having a 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 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students need to book places on these late buses on the day of travel.



# Sixth Form

Our mission is to develop a thriving Sixth Form where students are equipped with the appropriate skills to ensure success in their next stage of life, whether that is higher education, apprenticeship or employment.

## Our Sixth Form is committed to:

- 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 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 further in higher education. 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 5

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 several after-school clubs available on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, catering for a range of interests. These include 'Bake Off', astronomy club, computer coding, maths challenge and many more. Several of our older students help run these activities.

## Sports

 Leading a healthy lifestyle is encouraged at the academy and our sports teams regularly take part in fixtures. Sporting opportunities include traditional sports such as football and netball alongside newer sports such as handball and softball.

## Music

 More than 120 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, Big Band and the Junior Concert Band.

## Trips and Residential

 Enrichment trips give students an opportunity to apply skills learned in the classroom. There is a Year 7 team building day at Grendon Outdoor Learning Centre early in the year. Other opportunities include a Modern Foreign Languages visit to France, a science trip to the Big Bang fair and exploring the Black Country Museum with History.

## 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 meets termly with the Head of School 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 student team and various committees including those to organise fundraising and the prom.

## 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
- An identified key worker

## 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 5 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.

## 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 Heads of House, 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 Heads of House 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. Students can also access work experience and special projects and 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.

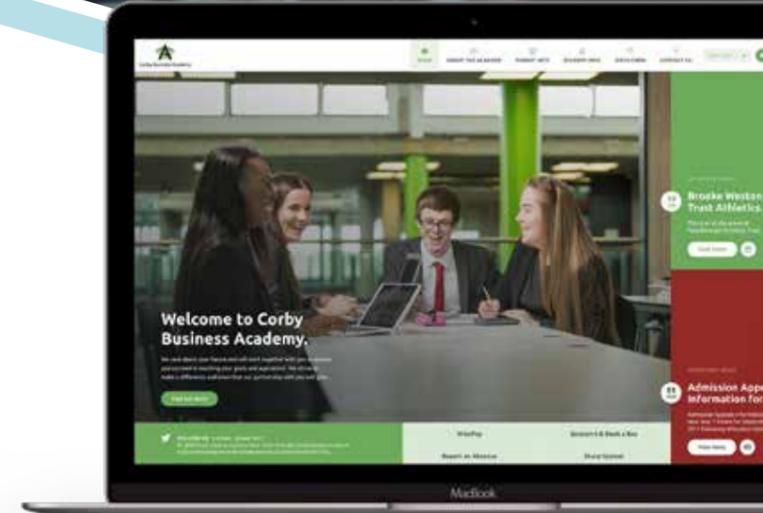
## Monitoring progress

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 Head of House 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 three times a year that outline what level their child is working at, what they are expected to achieve and what they can do to progress in their subjects. Where students require additional support to reach their academic targets, subject teachers or the Directors of Subject will contact parents directly.



## News and information

Letters from the Heads of School 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.

## 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

Corby Business Academy  
Academy Way, Gretton Road, Corby,  
Northamptonshire NN17 5EB

T 01536 303120

E [enquiries@corbybusinessacademy.org](mailto:enquiries@corbybusinessacademy.org)

E [ntreacy@corbybusinessacademy.org](mailto:ntreacy@corbybusinessacademy.org)

E [sunderwood@corbybusinessacademy.org](mailto:sunderwood@corbybusinessacademy.org)

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