



Corby Business Academy

COMMIT BELIEVE ACHIEVE



Corby Business Academy

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# Prospectus

Academic Year 2022-2023

A valued member of the

Brooke Weston Trust







Corby Business Academy

Aspirations for all students' academic excellence and potential

Commitment towards the holistic development of each student

Strong community relationships and ambition for all

## Welcome to Corby Business Academy

Dear Parents, Carers and prospective Students,

Thank you for your interest in Corby Business Academy. We are delighted that you are considering an application for our school; 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 skilled team of staff who are committed to giving all students a high-quality educational experience, as well as nurturing individual skills and aspirations.

We work hard to ensure that our students have the best teaching and learning, excellent facilities and a full range of enrichment activities that run alongside academic studies. Our curriculum provides a wealth of opportunities to make academic progress and gain confidence. Holistic development is a significant part of our strategic planning; we are determined to ensure that students leave us as well-rounded individuals.

We are obviously very much aware of the disruption to education across the country in the past two years, please rest assured that our planning, preparation and strategic decisions are based around ensuring that all students' needs or current situation are catered for. During their time with us, students will be challenged with work that is tailored to their ability levels and encouraged to meet and exceed expectations.

Students will access detailed information and guidance about subject options at GCSE and A-Level, as well as possible career pathways that can be pursued.

Classroom experiences are 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 students have the best possible learning and life experiences that nurture both their academic qualities and enable the development of their unique personalities.

We are proud of the exceptional facilities on offer at Corby Business Academy and we are valued 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, careers based learning, sports competitions and the Combined Cadet Force.

These additional components mean they can access many developmental opportunities and forge friendships at other schools.

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 community.

Yours sincerely

**Simon Underwood**  
Principal





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## Our Vision

Our vision is to instil the Academy’s values into each of our students and give them the skills and opportunities to succeed. Student voice and staff philosophy has recently seen us pledge to following:



We challenge ourselves with this thought whenever there is consideration in the areas of planning, delivery, 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, thinking and problem solving 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
  -  Delivering a rich and balanced curriculum



# The Academy Building

We are very proud of the Academy building and our facilities. The site has an impressive sports provision 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, Media, Music, Photography and Design Technology. It boasts the latest equipment that you would expect to find in any modern creative or technical business, such as media and photography software, 3D printers, design and technology machines, plus a large workshop and art rooms.

### **Communication (COMMS)**

The COMMS faculty houses English and Drama, which includes a drama studio.

### **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.

### **Sixth Form Study**

Our Sixth Form study area is a much-used, well-resourced and equipped space. Students also have the opportunity to work in faculty areas during self-study time, where subject experts will be available.

### **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**

The Library is a real feature of the Academy. It is well-stocked and resourced, with 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 provides excellent service with a wide range of high quality nutritious food on offer at both breakfast and lunch.

### **Theatre**

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

# The School Day



## **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, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Students need to book places on these late buses on the day of travel.



## **Uniform**

Like the most successful businesses and organisations, 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. This is an important element to us, we ask that parents and carers support the Academy expectations and ethos.



## **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 nutrition advisor who works on-site to ensure government guidelines on nutrition standards are always met. We also source food from local suppliers. Students use their smart cards to pay for meals and the balance can be topped up on an online payment system.



## **Smartcards**

Every student has their own smart card which is used around the building for purposes such as obtaining food and accessing the library. It also means that only students, staff and authorised visitors can enter the building.



## **Timings**

The Academy opens to students at 8.00 a.m. We recommend that students arrive no later than 8.25 a.m. to ensure they are ready to start their morning tutor time at 8.40 a.m. The Academy day finishes at 3.00 p.m. with an extensive range of after school enrichment sessions, which run to 4.00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Each day is divided into five teaching lessons, an academic mentoring session, as well as a breakfast and lunchtime. Movement between faculties is kept to a minimum to maximise learning.





# Curriculum Years 7-11



Our broad and balanced curriculum is designed to support academic and personal development. All our subjects play an important role in helping to prepare students for further education or the world of work.

Business, Careers and Enterprise learning skills are implemented across the 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, therefore, subjects delivered at Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9) 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, Drama, Modern Foreign Languages, Careers, Religion Philosophy and Ethics, History, Geography, Computer Science and Music. Personal, Social and Health Education are

also taught through weekly lessons, a tutor time programme, assemblies and devoted days of learning. At Key Stage 3 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 10 and 11) and Key Stage 5 (Sixth Form). Our provision at Key Stage 3 has resulted in an accelerated and efficient curriculum.

## KS4

Key Stage 4 students continue to follow a core curriculum with a wide choice of optional subjects. All are given the opportunity to undertake GCSEs and other non-GCSE Level 2 courses, such as BTECs. There are various routes that students can opt for at Key Stage 4, depending on their Key

Stage 3 outcomes. However, most students will complete a core suite of qualifications comprising of Mathematics, English, Science, Geography or History and a Modern Foreign Language. Further option blocks allow students to select other subjects from a broad range of academic and creative subjects.

# Personal Development

The Personal Development Curriculum runs throughout Key Stage 3 and 4 and is delivered through our allocated tutor time, assemblies and the 'Develop Me' programme.

Topic covered within 'Develop Me' include:

- Staying Safe Online
- Relationships and Sex Education
- Health and Wellbeing
- Celebrating Diversity and Equality
- Life beyond school
- Politics

# 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. For the past two academic years, over 94% of our students have achieved their first choice destination.

## Our Sixth Form is committed to:

- High levels of achievement for all students
- Courses which reflect our students' ambitions and that are appropriate to their needs
- Rigorous standards of learning, teaching and assessment
- Structured support to enable all students to achieve their maximum potential
- Careers 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 and Vocational Level 3 courses.

All prospective students are interviewed to identify the best possible combination of courses to meet their individual needs. As with Key Stage 4, our range of courses changes each year to respond to the needs of the students.

This allows young people to specialise in areas of interest and enables pathways for higher education or the world of work.

We aim to ensure that all students progress to university, further training or employment.

Each student is expected to be involved with enrichment activities we offer. This is to support the development of transferable skills and enable strong university, apprenticeship or job applications.

These opportunities include the Young Enterprise scheme, the Extended Project Qualification, 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

## Sports

Leading a healthy lifestyle is encouraged at the Academy and our sports teams regularly take part in fixtures. Sporting opportunities include traditional sports that operate alongside newer or alternative sports.

We also encourage individual sports to ensure that passion or talent is developed. Additional support is available for elite athletes competing at regional and national levels.

## Trips and Residential Experiences

Enrichment trips give students an opportunity to apply skills learnt in the classroom. There is a Year 7 team building residential early in the year, which we want all students to attend; this proves to be an excellent chance to cement positive relationships with both students and staff. Other opportunities across all curriculum areas also happen on a regular basis.

## Forum/Senate/Leadership Opportunities

Our students help to shape life at the Academy. Each year students are elected to represent tutor and year groups within the Student Senate. The Senate meets termly with a member of the Senior Leadership Team and Associate 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 student team and various committees; including those to organise fundraising, student functions or events, well-being and healthy lifestyles.

## Combined Cadet Force

The Brooke Weston Trust Combined Cadet Force (Army Section) is proud to hold its Headquarters at Corby Business Academy; where for Corby Business Academy where it offers Cadetships to students from Years 9 to Year 13. Those who secure a place with the CCF take part in a broad range of military themed activities. Using a military themed approach the main intent of CCF is to develop leadership and character by building their appreciation of the values of teamwork, initiative and problem solving, mental and physical resilience, self-discipline and confidence.

Each cadet will be expected to attend at least one camp in the year, but will also have the opportunity to attend further Field Training Exercises that run after school and at weekends.

## Music

Over 100 students learn an instrument at Corby Business Academy. Music tuition is provided for a range of instruments including piano, drum kit, flute, clarinet, saxophone, brass, bass guitar, electric guitar and singing lessons.

Regular opportunities are provided to participate in concerts and competitions throughout the academic year both in school, within the local community and nationally. All students are actively encouraged to participate in a range of weekly instrumental ensembles. This ranges from our award-winning Senior Concert Band and Big Band to rock bands, brass groups and choirs.

Recent performances by our Senior Concert Band and Big Band have included performing at the National Festival of Music for Youth Finals at Symphony Hall, Birmingham, as well as reaching the finals of the National Concert Band Festival held at The Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester. In addition, the music department organises a biannual tour abroad.





# Student 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. Details of our highly skilled Student Care Team, and structure, can be found on our website.

## 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 and carers. Provision for students may involve:

- In-class support
- Individual support or intervention
- Group work
- Differentiated curriculum
- Key Stage 3 intervention
- An identified key worker
- Access to the Academy's Learning HUB

The Academy also operates Nurture Groups at Key Stage 3 to support students' access to the curriculum and receive additional support according to their academic needs.

## 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. We also have bespoke literacy and reading sessions delivered in tutor time and have recently introduced DEAR time in the morning. The Academy adopts consistent reading and vocabulary strategies across the curriculum to support the ongoing improvement of students' ability to access challenging text and communicate with sophistication. 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 and extra-curricular activities are available in our library to promote a love of reading.

## Monitoring progress

We offer a broad range of personalised support to our students, coupled with close monitoring of their academic progress. Academic mentoring is implemented by members of Senior Staff, Tutors, Heads of Year and Sixth Formers. Personal tutors act as students' first point of contact and will monitor, support and influence their

progress, performance, student care and good behaviour. Where concerns arise, Heads of Year and members of the Senior Leadership Team work with students and tutors to develop personalised intervention strategies.

## Academic excellence

Students that are identified as exceeding, or having the potential to exceed, age-stage expectations, are offered a wide variety of opportunities within the Academy's normal teaching. This 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.

## Tutors, student care and guidance

We pride ourselves on our student care and have dedicated staff who work with students on well-being or personal issues. Tutors and the Student Care Team are on the front line of communication with parents and carers, having an overview of student life both in the Academy and in the community.

The Student Care Team works closely with academy teaching staff and families as well as liaising with outside agencies when necessary. Tutors are expected to be 'the Academy parent' for their tutees; this element is an important part of supporting all students.

## 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. We have an experienced and dedicated team of non-teaching staff who offer support to all students throughout their time at the Academy. 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 standards set, as well as accept support, the Academy will be required to take appropriate actions.

## Unit Provision

The Academy's Unit Provision caters for students whose Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) identifies learning difficulties that include severe, complex moderate, speech, language and communication and autism. It offers discrete provision and inclusion into mainstream as appropriate. The Unit caters for a total of 75 students including 10 places in post 16 provision and 8 within the ASD base. The Unit Provision is a supportive and nurturing environment that fosters independence, develops confidence and instills resilience in all students.

We deliver a high quality, personalised and innovative curriculum that is aspirational in the attainment for all students, regardless of their starting points. Experiences are rich in aspiration and allow students to make progress despite sometimes challenging circumstances. Classes are taught by specialist teachers, who provide highly differentiated lessons and multi-sensory approaches to address the needs of all.

We offer a range of accreditation in Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 which is personalised dependent on their individual flightpath. Educational experiences celebrate individuality and provide opportunities to embed functional skills for lifelong learning. Students are able to experience off-site activities to compliment the curriculum on-site. There is a great focus on personal development, group and individual interventions are delivered and targeted to develop the whole person which enables students to gain cultural capital and contribute towards society as they move through the transitions ahead of them.





## Community links, communication & online

Corby Business Academy has forged strong links with some major international companies affording unique, real-life learning opportunities for our students. Key partners across the county provide a mentoring service for 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 and Governors 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. Further information relating to the Governing Body can be found on our website and around the Academy.

### 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 a meet the tutor evening in the first term so families can get to know their child's form tutor. Parents and carers can also communicate with a form tutor, Head of Year or member of the Student Care Team on a daily basis.

Options information evenings are held for students and their families 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 and carers directly.

### News and information

Letters from the Principal are sent home on a regular basis. We also operate a parent app which enables easy communication between the Academy and parents and carers. 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.

Please follow us on Twitter to receive the latest news from around the Academy and monitor students' achievements: [@CorbyBusinessAc](https://twitter.com/CorbyBusinessAc)

Many departments also have their own Twitter pages that you can follow to see information or receive updates on events that are happening.

### Online learning and support

The Academy operates with many online learning tools to enhance the knowledge of our students; visit our website or contact us directly to acquire further information. We also send regular updates or guidance to these platforms, so please be aware and always ask questions when needed.

### Parent/Carer Survey

Annual parent/carers surveys consistently show high levels of satisfaction with the standard of education provided at Corby Business Academy. These views and communications are important, as it enables us to plan and improve our provision as required.

### 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)









Corby Business Academy is a valued member of the Brooke Weston Trust

The mission of the Trust is 'to transform educational performance in the communities where we work, to improve student achievement by removing the barriers to learning and providing opportunities for personal development.' Brooke Weston Trust was established in 2018 and is led by our CEO, Dr Andrew Campbell. BWT is a family of schools, each with its own unique character. However, we all share a culture of high expectations and ambition for all – this is 'The BWT Way'.

Our schools, primary and secondary, are based in Northamptonshire and Cambridgeshire. As a family, we regularly collaborate with each other to drive towards providing the best educational opportunities and life chances for our young people.

This means that staff and students from across BWT work together to support each other, share best practice and try new ideas. Over each academic year there are many opportunities for students from all our schools to meet, compete and celebrate success together.

*Anne Hill* - Chief Education Officer for Secondary Schools  
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### 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



## 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)







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