

2019-20



Meadowhead School

Academy Trust

Learning and achieving together



I have really enjoyed my first year at Meadowhead – I've made new friends and learnt a lot.

Y7 STUDENT

Welcome to Meadowhead School

I am exceptionally proud to be the Headteacher of Meadowhead School.

At Meadowhead we have a clear vision for the future. We are determined that our students are able to achieve well and leave us as confident, compassionate and articulate individuals with the skills to support them through the rest of their lives. Through high standards in teaching and pastoral care we expect to prepare our students well for entrance to higher education, high quality employment and the future careers of their choice.

We have fostered a caring, supportive and happy environment which will encourage our students to flourish. In terms of behaviour, uniform and school standards we have high expectations. We expect students to wear the full uniform correctly, attend well, behave respectfully to others and to work hard.

We also believe that education is more than just academic success and aim to develop the whole person with a broad, balanced curriculum, a wide range of extra-curricular activities which we encourage all students to take part in, as well as a wide range of events during the year.

The opportunities we provide are first class. In 2009 we founded the Meadowhead Community Learning Trust and through this we work collaboratively with our community; feeder primary schools, Sheffield College, both universities in Sheffield and 21 local and national business partners. Our day to day school life is enriched by visits and activities to provide our students with incredible career opportunities and to improve life chances.

Meadowhead's impressive facilities provide students with a state-of-the-art learning environment. The school buildings now include an excellent Sixth Form complete with brand new IT and private study facilities which help students to develop independence and discipline in their learning.

We thank you for showing an interest in what our school has to offer your child. Choosing a secondary school is one of the most important decisions you will make and we hope that this prospectus and a visit to the school will provide you with the necessary information to help you make your choice.

Please do not hesitate to contact us to arrange a visit – you will not be disappointed.

Mrs Kam Grewal-Joy
Headteacher

I thoroughly enjoyed the friendly atmosphere, excellent teaching, and learning a new language at evening classes to keep up with my son.

PARENT

A learning community

We value the positive support that we receive from our parents and the wider community. We welcome the close collaboration and shared work with our feeder primary schools in many subject areas, notably English, mathematics, science and languages. Many parents take the opportunity to be actively involved through curriculum evenings, subject workshops for families and adult evening language classes throughout the year.

The Meadowhead community

We are dedicated to working closely with our community which is demonstrated through the strong partnership links we have developed with the 31 education and business members of our Meadowhead Community Learning Trust over the past 10 years. This partnership is enabling us to respond to the needs of the local community and offer quality education, support, bespoke enrichment and employment opportunities for all students aged 3 to 19.

I have enjoyed family cooking sessions – the recipes were simple, tasty and quick to cook and we received clear instructions from very supportive staff.

Y8 PARENT



Caring for the individual

We place great emphasis on ensuring that each individual feels part of the school, feels important, feels cared for and feels that they have a contribution to make.

The tutor is responsible for a form group and has a key role in helping students achieve their full potential. Each Year Group has its own Year base overseen by the Head of Year, Pastoral Manager, Tutors and link Senior Leaders.

Amazing teachers who always make time to assist you with school work or worries.

Y13 PARENT

Achieving together

Our KS4 results show a consistent pattern over time with Meadowhead School exceeding all local and national attainment measures.

Our students are prepared to respond to new opportunities, and for their future development. We are proud that recent figures show that nearly 100% of students embarked on further education or training or employment after leaving Meadowhead. A significant proportion of Meadowhead students go on to succeed at the highest levels at university.

We promote and celebrate achievement and success for all, through our school rewards system. Students efforts and hard work are regularly celebrated through the termly newsletter, student bulletin and celebration assemblies. Furthermore, parents are invited to attend the termly Diamond Award ceremony to celebrate excellence over time for students achieving the most prestigious award at Meadowhead.

Reading time is great and really quiet – all you can hear is the sound of pages turning.

Y8 STUDENT

Learning together

We encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning. In Form Tutor time, they are helped to set and review their own personal learning targets. In other lessons they use Study Planners to organise their learning and homework and monitor their own progress with the help of their parents.

We seek to maintain the highest standards, supported by our system of Behaviour for Learning. This offers positive rewards for the majority, but where necessary a series of consequences to promote positive behaviour and attitudes to learning.

Students are encouraged to take responsibility in maintaining high standards of behaviour and appearance, following our agreed Code of Conduct. They show a genuine pride in the school and never fail to impress visitors. Students contribute to making the school a better place through the School Parliament. There are a range of other leadership positions available for students across the school to enable students to make a positive contribution to the wider community.

Staying safe and healthy

Safeguarding is at the forefront of all that we do and is deemed outstanding by Ofsted. We provide clear support and guidance in a safe caring community, enabling our students to feel happy, confident and secure. The school building and routines have been designed with safety and security in mind.

The school promotes healthy lifestyles with a commitment to healthy eating. Year 7 have their own lunch break and convenient access to the healthy food available in the Café Olé.

Students are also able to access sporting facilities at the refurbished Graves Leisure Centre as part of the school's enrichment programme.

To see my daughter on stage with her friends all working together to create such a wonderful production is something that will never be forgotten.

Y9 PARENT



Personalising the Curriculum

Our Meadowhead Signature Curriculum is designed to inspire and engage all learners. We aim to provide the very best learning opportunities for all students with a broad and balanced curriculum that meets individual needs within a vibrant, forward looking community.

In Years 7, 8 and 9 students follow a broad range of National Curriculum subjects, taught at appropriate levels for the individual. Subjects are taught in both mixed ability and groups based on their ability. The daily reading session each morning prioritises the development of reading to enable students to access the full curriculum offer. From Year 10, the curriculum is tailored to meet individual needs and personal choice, aiming to ensure that all students enjoy their lessons and fulfil their potential. This might

be through a full GCSE programme, to a blend of vocational and work-related opportunities.

Our structures are designed to allow students to take assessments at the most appropriate time for the individual, and to increase opportunities to follow courses beyond GCSE.

Parents can view up to date information about their child's reports, attendance and homework through the Parent App.

My daughter has benefited greatly from her involvement in the Erasmus programme. It has opened up opportunities beyond the normal curriculum and provided experience of the wider world and a range of work environments. She has developed strong friendships with other Meadowhead, German and Spanish students involved in the exchange trips.

Y10 PARENT

An international vision

Meadowhead School continues to offer French, German and Spanish to A Level with enrichment activities in many other languages, and adult evening language classes throughout the year.

In 2004 we first achieved the British Council International School award in recognition of the growing global and multicultural dimension of our curriculum and extra-curricular opportunities.

We were proud to be the first school in Sheffield to have been granted this prestigious award for 4 consecutive terms, and again for a 5th term in 2016-2019.

We have established International project links and have led several student exchange visits, staff training and Erasmus+ projects with schools in China, Finland, France, Germany, Norway, Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka and Sweden. Other study visits and curriculum links across the world have also involved schools in Canada, Chile, Holland, Italy, Qatar, Russia, South Africa and the USA across a wide variety of subject areas.



Planning for the future

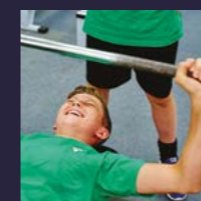
In every year students learn to plan ahead. We take care in helping students, with the support of their families, make positive choices for their future. In particular students receive individual advice and guidance about future education and careers opportunities beyond Meadowhead School.

The fantastic opportunity at Whittam Cox architects gave me an invaluable insight into my dream job.

Y10 WORK EXPERIENCE STUDENT

Extending opportunities

We are proud of the depth and variety of extended opportunities that we offer outside regular school hours. Students are encouraged to do something extra, and take a lead in helping others to participate.



Sports facilities

Our excellent sports facilities allow opportunities to participate for fitness and enjoyment, or to compete in a wide range of sports and games. We have an excellent record of participation and sporting success, locally and nationally.



Development

We encourage students to take up leadership positions across the school to develop skills and character i.e. School Parliament, Sports Leaders, Anti-bullying ambassadors, Peer Mentors, Reading Buddies to name a few.



Holiday schools

Summer school – to support transition into Year 7.

Half term revision sessions for examinations groups.



After school

Homework Clubs, twilight courses, extra lessons, revision sessions, additional qualifications.



Experiences

Residential experiences all over the world focus on languages, sport, outdoor pursuits, performing arts and citizenship.

We have many additional experiences linked to the wider curriculum: theatre trips, field courses, sporting challenges, competitions and fun events are delivered by all curriculum areas.



Reputation

Meadowhead has a deserved reputation for the quality and variety of its music and its performances, from classical to rock and pop, from soloists to orchestras and bands. The Trust Choir, linking with our feeder primary schools is a highlight. Large numbers of students choose to study drama and also produce excellent performances - from drama clubs to "Oliver" and Shakespeare.

Please see our e-Phoenix newsletter to get an insight of the great variety of learning experiences that take place termly both outside and inside the classroom.

Key notes from Ofsted

On the curriculum

The curriculum offers a wide range of subjects and a good range of enrichment activities for students of all levels of ability.

The ethics course makes a strong contribution to pupils' understanding of British values, respect for others and equality matters.

Teaching

Good relationships exist between pupils and staff and lessons flow smoothly.

Enrichment

The school has a well-organised programme of careers education and provides one week's work experience to Year 10 pupils. Visits from university staff and employers successfully promote pupils' continuity in education or employment with training.

Leadership

Leaders ensure that students are given appropriate advice and select courses they are going to be successful in.

Advice & Guidance

Above-average proportions of students go on to study at university or continue in employment with training.

Strong links with local universities have supported students' increasing aspirations.

The school provides good, impartial careers advice for all students.

Atmosphere

Around school, pupils socialise well together.

Students make a good contribution to the school and are good role models for younger pupils.

Sixth Form

Students are very positive about their experiences in the sixth form and retention on courses is high.

Sixth Form at Meadowhead

Meadowhead now has as an excellent Sixth Form centre in the South West of Sheffield. We are rapidly becoming the Sixth Form of first choice for students in the area and our welcoming approach is attracting more and more students from other local schools.

Due to our size we are able to offer a wide range of academic and vocational subjects, appropriate to student needs and interests. We have the highest expectations of our students in all areas of their learning and a lot of care is taken to ensure that they develop into well-rounded young adults who are able to take the next step with confidence and success.

It is well known that the teaching and facilities at Meadowhead are of the highest quality and these combined with our outstanding care, guidance and support enable students to achieve well and to gain places at a wide range of universities, including the best in the country.



Building for the Future

Meadowhead School has been designed to enable students of all abilities to have a first class learning experience.

All of our curriculum is delivered in quality specialist accommodation, fully supported by the latest ICT facilities.

We are delighted to report that our new Sixth Form centre opened in November 2017. This 2.4 million extension offers state-of-the-art facilities, enhanced capacity, silent and group study space, social space and a café, forming an inspiring learning environment from which our specialist A-Level teachers and Sixth Form students benefit to ensure that all learners reach their full potential.

At Meadowhead,
you always felt supported
with whatever you needed,
from your teachers to
the sixth form team.

Y13 STUDENT



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For more info about our school visit
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