

Principal's Welcome



Dear parents, carers and future students,

Welcome to Queen Katharine Academy. I am delighted that you wish to know more about our wonderful school. It is our vision to be an **inclusive centre of educational excellence**, working in meaningful partnership with the communities we serve. Central to that vision is providing a rich and relevant education that transforms lives and gives all our children the opportunities they deserve. At Queen Katharine Academy we are passionate about the breadth and the depth of the education our students experience. We aim to inspire and equip them with the skills, knowledge and attitude to learn effectively, both independently as well as with, and from, others. By the time they leave Queen Katharine Academy, we want students to be empowered to be in charge of their own lives, fully engaged in their futures and motivated to shape society and the world around them.

We want all our students to be happy, and feel safe while they are at Queen Katharine Academy, so that they can thrive, take risks, and aspire to be as successful as they can be. It is therefore important to us that we get to know our students and their families so we can meet all our students' needs, and support them effectively along their journey. It is essential to all the staff at QKA that we establish effective, meaningful and long-lasting partnerships with the parents and carers of our students, working together to help our students thrive and supporting them to be their very best. We will always aim to build relationships that have high levels of trust and are built on mutual respect. As a result, we have high expectations of everyone connected to our school community, based on our guiding principle of RESPECT.





Of equal importance are our professional partnerships and we are proud to be part of Thomas Deacon Education Trust which, like us, is dedicated to raising educational outcomes for all its students across its range of primary and secondary phase academies. This locally-based trust allows us to share expertise with a variety of like-minded schools and ensures we provide the best possible opportunities for our students.

We aim to ensure young people always receive a broad and balanced education, through intelligent and innovative curriculum design. This is further supported by a variety of high-quality enrichment opportunities offered throughout the Academy from Years 7-14. We also care deeply about the well-being of our young people, and support students through skilled, committed and experienced pastoral teams.



We recognise that everyone is different, and we celebrate diversity wherever we can. We know that an excellent school has positive and highly respectful relationships at its heart. We all believe Queen Katharine Academy is a very special place, and it is made so by the people who learn and teach here. I strongly invite you to come and see for yourselves what an excellent place it is to learn, grow and develop. If you would like to take a tour of the school, and see us in action, please contact Lexy Wells (lexy.wells@qka.education) to arrange a visit.

Further information can be found on our website www.qka.education

Mr Philip Masterson Principal



Vision, Ethos and Values

We are acutely aware that the key purpose of our Academy is to put students first and everything we do must reflect that aim.

Our vision is:

To be an inclusive centre of educational excellence

As a Rights Respecting School, our purpose is underpinned by a set of values which inform all that we do:

Responsibility

All individuals will accept responsibility for their own actions, understanding that there is always a choice with their behaviour.



Excellence

All individuals will strive to use their skills, qualities and talents to be the best they can be.

Support

All individuals will give assistance and encouragement to others to do and be their best.

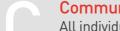
Pride

All individuals will be empowered and encouraged to gain a feeling of satisfaction from being a part of the Academy and of their own achievements and those of others.



Empathy

All individuals will be encouraged to understand the experiences and feelings of others from their perspective.

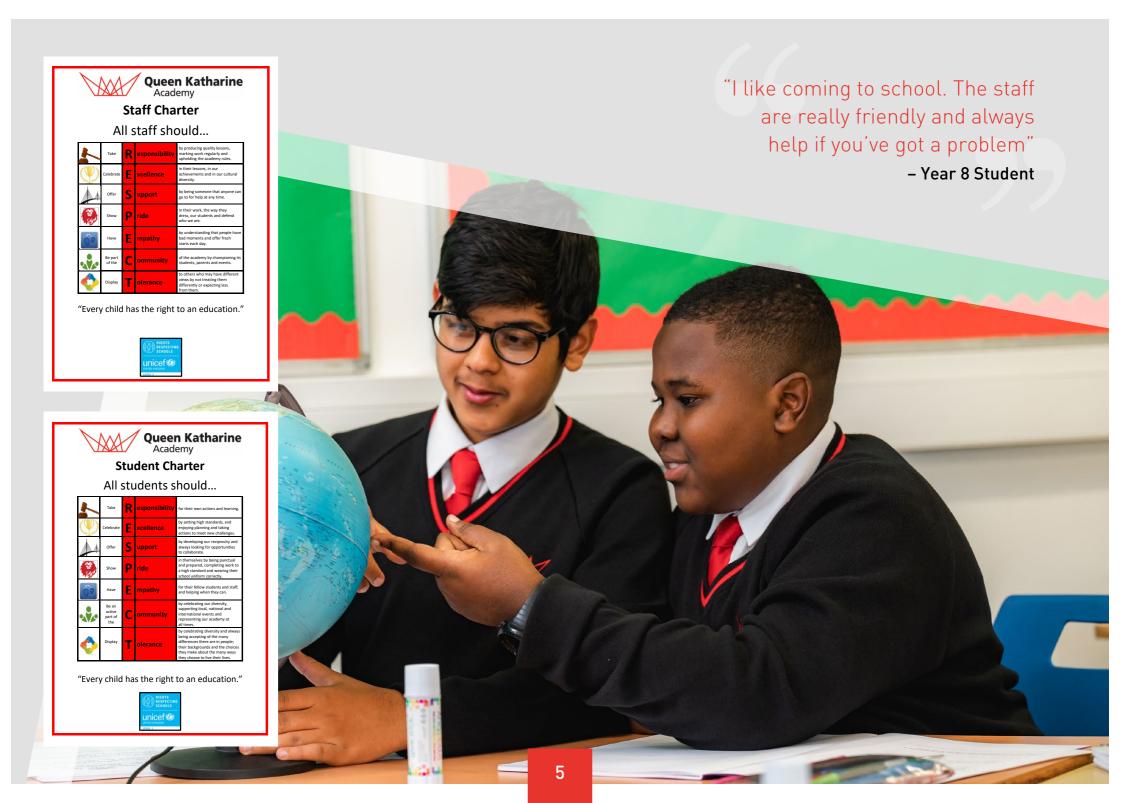


Community

All individuals are part of a community and all individuals strive to embrace their place and role within this community, supporting and encouraging each other to do and be their best.

Tolerance

All individuals will hold a fair, objective, and permissive attitude towards opinions, beliefs, and practices that differ from their own.



Life at QKA

Preparing for life by finding the best in everyone

We believe that all children can thrive in a school community where they are known, valued and feel safe. Our strong, inclusive ethos supports young people towards independence and encourages them to build effective relationships with each other, with staff and with others outside the Academy to help them achieve their potential. We have high standards and expectations and believe firmly that, by providing a well-ordered environment and promoting traditional values, we can encourage individuality, creativity and imagination. We know that the best learning occurs when it is interesting and enjoyable.

We invest a large amount of effort and energy in ensuring that our students are well-known and supported as individuals. Our pastoral care is extremely well developed and focused. Tutors are led by an experienced year team leader and further supported by a range of school-based and external specialists, who are able to provide bespoke support as and when necessary.

To complement the pastoral care, our curriculum aims to provide a broad and balanced entitlement whereby, increasingly, students acquire the skills, knowledge, concepts and understanding to develop their full potential, whilst at school and as adults.





Curriculum

QKA provides an exciting curriculum for all students, regardless of their starting points. We believe strongly in educational equity and have designed an exciting and innovative multi-curricular model which supports learners at all stages. Each of our curricular routes (Aspire, Accelerated, Forward Pathway and Learning Gateway) are designed to support students arriving at different stages in their educational journey. Specialist teachers work closely with highly trained teaching assistants to provide tailored support where needed.

The Academy offers a broad and balanced curriculum at all key stages including a range of academic, creative and vocational subjects at all levels. The curriculum is designed to provide progression as students move up the school, equipping them with the tools they need to access further and higher education or employment.

QKA Sixth Form

Developing successful, respectful and ambitious young people

Queen Katharine Academy has established a well-founded reputation as an excellent Sixth Form centre in Peterborough. This reputation is based on high levels of performance in both academic and vocational subjects, a wide range of courses on offer appropriate to student needs, exceptional student leadership opportunities, high levels of student satisfaction and an outstanding success rate in gaining places at the best universities for a variety of subjects.

Queen Katharine Academy is seeking to be at the leading edge of creating opportunities for students. For example, last year our students have:

taken part in the Lessons from Auschwitz Project

taken part in one-week residentials in Neuroscience, Ecology and Evolution, and Environmental Chemistry

www undertaken Duke of Edinburgh Award

participated in a one-week residential at leading universities as a pre-cursor to applying, with help from our scholarship programme with the Sutton Trust and Villiers Park

taken part in and won the Youth Speaks competition through the Rotary Club

It is well known that the teaching and facilities at the Academy are of the highest quality and these, combined with our outstanding care, guidance and support, enable students to achieve extremely strong examination results.





We strongly believe that not all learning takes place within the classroom

We are committed to providing a vibrant programme of enrichment and extra-curricular activities from which the students learn a great deal about themselves and others both within and beyond their immediate community. We believe strongly in the importance of nurturing individual gifts and talents at every level and our enrichment programme encourages every young person to develop life skills that will stay with them long after they leave our care.

A major part of school life at Queen Katharine Academy is that every child has the opportunity to participate in extra-curricular activities of their choice including:

₩ Sport

W Music

Performing Arts

Duke of Edinburgh

Combined Cadet Force

Languages / International

₩ STEM

Leadership

Peterborough Citizens

"I thoroughly enjoy being part of the cadets. I really enjoyed the camp and it has helped improve my confidence."

- Cadet Student

Our dedicated team of Physical Education staff and specialist coaches are committed to encouraging the very best physical and sporting performances that our students are capable of.

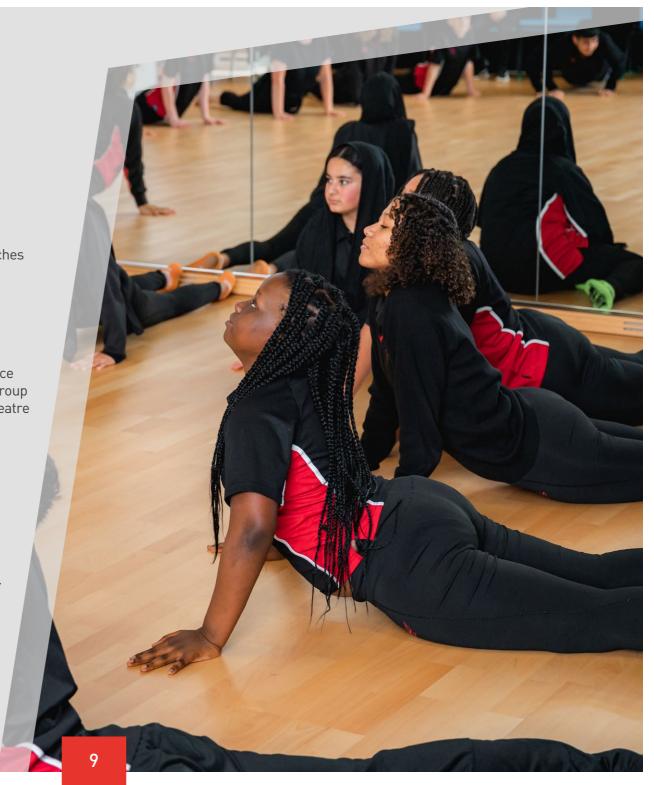
Students regularly take part in local and regional competitions across the range of sporting disciplines.

A range of music and performing arts clubs and activities take place throughout the year with students participating in individual and group instrumental lessons, playing in rock bands, and performing in theatre and dance shows on a regular basis.

Queen Katharine Academy boasts an extremely well-established Combined Cadet Force and many students benefit from the experience that working and learning together in public service provides.

From Year 9, students are able to participate in the Academy's Duke of Edinburgh scheme and a number of our Sixth Form students complete the Bronze Award before leaving the Academy.

The Academy arranges a wide range of trips and visits; some directly linked to the curriculum such as field trips in Geography, as well as recreational trips such as Tall Ships or the international exchange programmes.



Welcome to TDET

TDET is a highly successful multi-academy trust and charitable organisation that aims to be one of the leading MATs in the country, dedicated to providing a truly world class education for our communities in Peterborough and the surrounding area.

We are a trust that unites and empowers like-minded academies to achieve the very best for our learners, and at the heart of our vision is a profound belief that the Trust as a whole is more than the sum of its parts. All our academies are equally valued and contribute to the development and direction of the Trust as we grow together.

All members of our Trust - our academies, members of staff, students and communities - are united in purpose through a set of shared common values and expectations:

- **Trust** | We rely on honesty as the basis for developing meaningful relationships
- **Diversity** | We embrace individual differences
- **Excellence** We want the very best and never give up on doing what is right
- Transformation | We work together to make a positive impact

We work across all key phases of education to provide every child in our communities with the best life chances and high aspirations whatever their background or starting point. All TDET schools strive to give our pupils the very best education possible and we insist upon the highest standards in all that we do.

Our academies work closely together, taking part in real and meaningful collaborations between teachers, pupils and other key partners including parents, business and other education providers. We value our local communities and actively encourage our schools and staff to share best practice to benefit all pupils within each local area. Through these collaborations we strive to ensure that TDET:

- Offers the highest quality educational **Provision** so that every child is empowered to be a confident learner, successfully prepared for their future.
- Develops meaningful and high-leverage **Partnerships** that actively and directly support our goals as a strong multi-academy trust.
- Becomes an employer of choice by investing in our employees so that we have the best **People** working for us, who are fully engaged and empowered to achieve our collective goals.

Through experience, we know that there is no such thing as a one-size-fits-all approach to education. Our academies are individual members of the Trust community and are empowered to innovate and adapt to the needs of their pupils and the local community.



Mr Scott Hudson Chief Executive at Thomas Deacon Education Trust



Unity of Purpose
Trust | Diversity | Excellence | Transformation





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