



WELCOME





Heather Widdup
Executive Principal

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I am proud to introduce you to Retford Oaks Academy, a stimulating and welcoming learning environment, with highly motivated students who strive for excellence in all that they do.

We have extremely high expectations of our students to allow them to flourish and gain the best possible academic outcomes. High quality teaching, within a broad and balanced curriculum, ensures all learners are challenged to meet their full potential.

It is equally our aim to enable our students to develop socially and emotionally. Our exceptional pastoral care ensures that students are supported and encouraged whilst pursuing their high academic goals.

Alongside this, our outstanding facilities and diverse range of trips and visits ensure that everyone has the opportunity to supplement their learning with enriching experiences.

We look forward to meeting you at one of our open events so we can show you what makes us 'Oaks and proud.'

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VISION, VALUES AND ETHOS



Our ethos

At Retford Oaks, when we put our values into action, we demonstrate that we are 'Dedicated to Excellence.'

We are constantly developing innovative practices to enhance the high-quality teaching we offer to all of our students. Cutting-edge technology, alongside a range of other methods, is used to inspire learning and deepen comprehension.

We have respect for each other, our environment, our community and ourselves. We all have different views, talents and abilities, so valuing each other's contributions and celebrating our individual personalities, voices and talents are key to our academy ethos.

We empower our students to challenge themselves. We actively encourage each student to go beyond what they think is possible and staff encourage our students and enable their goals to be reached. The academy rewards success and offers appropriate developmental support where needed.

We offer exceptional pastoral care, enabling every individual to grow within our learning community. We work together, we learn together. Our dedication to excellence drives us towards the communal aim of achieving our goals, in the classroom and beyond.

Our vision

To inspire.

To raise aspiration.

To create brighter tomorrows.

Our values

We empower

We respect

We care



INSPIRING MINDS





Ensuring that all students have an equal opportunity to access a wide and varied curriculum is crucial to engaging young minds.

Hard work, excellent behaviour and a commitment to learning are essential requirements for all students. Lessons are developed to be appropriately challenging and are delivered through a variety of methods to engage students with their studies.

Our students work in a number of ways to extend and enhance their learning, studying in groups, in pairs and individually. Homework is an essential part of the learning experience which allows students to broaden and deepen their understanding of the topics studied.



Our curriculum is also supported through a series of learning enrichment opportunities, which cover a wide range of topics including managing personal finances, celebrating diversity within society, and understanding and appreciating British values.



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM





Whilst we pride ourselves on our academic excellence, we offer our students so much more. In addition to working hard and striving for exam success, each student is encouraged to develop their personal and social skills.

We offer many activities outside of the timetable to enable students to express themselves, nurture existing talents or to try something new.

Our extensive programme of enrichment, which includes sport, music and drama are complemented by a number of learning enrichment days throughout the year.

All our extra-curricular activities are an important and exciting feature of academy life and contribute enormously to our students' social and academic development.

A FRIENDLY COMMUNITY



Our priority is to make students feel welcome and comfortable at our academy.

We operate a house system with four houses – **Thoresby, Clumber, Rufford** and **Sherwood**. There are several tutor groups within each house. The tutor group meets each morning to provide a consistent support network and to deliver personal development every day.




Each group has a dedicated academic mentor providing leadership, guidance and support. Older students within each house are encouraged to take on responsibility for mentoring younger members of the house, as part of their personal development.

To help students progress during their time at Retford Oaks, we have a defined system of support to enable every individual to reach their potential and feel safe within the academy.



READY
FOR THE
FUTURE



A photograph of two students, a girl and a boy, in school uniforms. The boy is holding a magnifying glass over a rock, and the girl is looking at it with a smile. They are in a classroom setting with other students and posters in the background.

**We want all our students
to leave us as well-rounded
young adults, ready to
pursue their aspirations.**

All students have a planned programme of careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG). We ensure all students have opportunities to recognise their own strengths and we support them in taking responsibility for developing their own employability skills.

PART OF
SOMETHING
BIGGER



Admissions

To apply for a place at Retford Oaks Academy, parents and carers will need to submit an application to Nottinghamshire County Council by the published deadline.

The application process for year 7 normally opens in August each year, closing in late October, with offers made to families in the following March.

Further details of how to apply can be found on the 'admissions' section of our website.

www.retfordoaks-ac.org.uk

If you have any questions at all about applying to Retford Oaks, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Phone: **01777 861618**

Email: **office@retfordoaks-ac.org.uk**



We are proud to be part of Diverse Academies Trust

Across primary, secondary and special settings, we share a common mission to nurture curiosity, develop wellbeing and empower children and young people to go beyond their aspirations.

Together, we believe we can make a difference in our diverse communities, and in the lives of those who learn with us and work with us.

For more information, visit **www.diverseacademies.org.uk**

Retford Oaks Academy

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