



WELCOME

Part of  Diverse Academies



WELCOME

I am delighted to introduce you to Retford Oaks Academy, a proud member of Diverse Academies, dedicated to providing an outstanding experience for our students. We are privileged to serve our community and students, who embody 'dedication to excellence'.

We hold high expectations of our students and staff to enable the best possible outcomes, capturing the interests and imaginations of our young people with an extensive range of wider development experiences. An unwavering focus on high quality teaching and a broad, balanced curriculum ensures learners are challenged to meet their full potential in our outstanding, modern facilities.

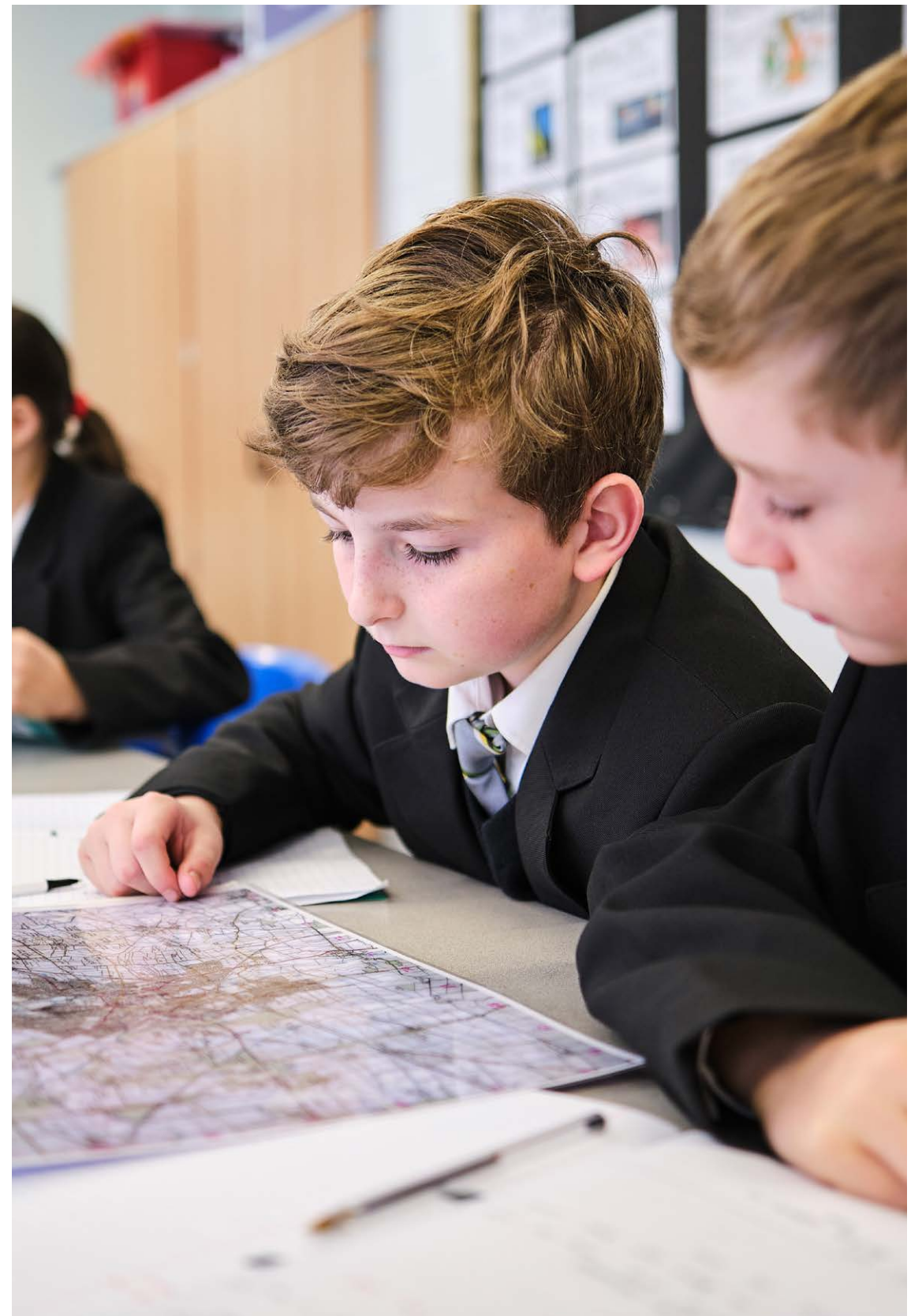
Personal development is a fundamental component of our curriculum, enabling students to develop socially and emotionally. This is delivered through exceptional pastoral care and a commitment to develop our young people through our values: we empower, we respect, we care. Our academy offers a diverse and exciting range of extra-curricular opportunities and trips to further enhance students' experiences of school alongside our drive for academic progress.

We look forward to welcoming you to the academy at one of our open events or a private visit so we can share with you what makes us 'Oaks and Proud'.

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Luke Dickinson'.

Luke Dickinson
Principal

WHAT
MAKES
RETFORD
OAKS
ACADEMY
UNIQUE?



Top 10 reasons to choose Retford Oaks Academy

1. Academic excellence

We are committed to providing an outstanding education that prepares students for success in the future. Our rigorous curriculum and dedicated teachers ensure that every student reaches their full potential.

2. Holistic education

We believe in educating the whole child, focusing on not just academic achievement but also personal development, creativity, and wellbeing. Our holistic approach ensures that students are well-rounded individuals prepared for success in all aspects of life.

3. Strong ethos

Our school's vision, values, and ethos are at the core of everything we do. We believe in promoting respect, responsibility, and resilience, creating a positive and inclusive learning environment for all students.

4. Wide range of extra-curricular activities

We appreciate and emphasise the value of clubs, trips and enrichment opportunities to enhance learning in lessons. That's why we offer a variety of extra-curricular activities, ranging from sport to the arts and everything in between.

5. Supportive community

Retford Oaks Academy is more than just a school - it's a community. Our supportive environment encourages collaboration, teamwork, and a sense of belonging. Students feel safe and supported as they navigate their educational journey.



6. Dedication to inclusivity

By valuing diversity and respecting each other's voices, we create an academy community where students feel heard and appreciated.

7. Focus on wellbeing

Retford Oaks Academy emphasises the importance of physical and mental wellness, with programmes and facilities designed to support students' overall wellbeing.

8. Strong parent and school partnership

We believe that parents play a crucial role in their child's education. That's why we encourage strong parental involvement and open communication between home and school.

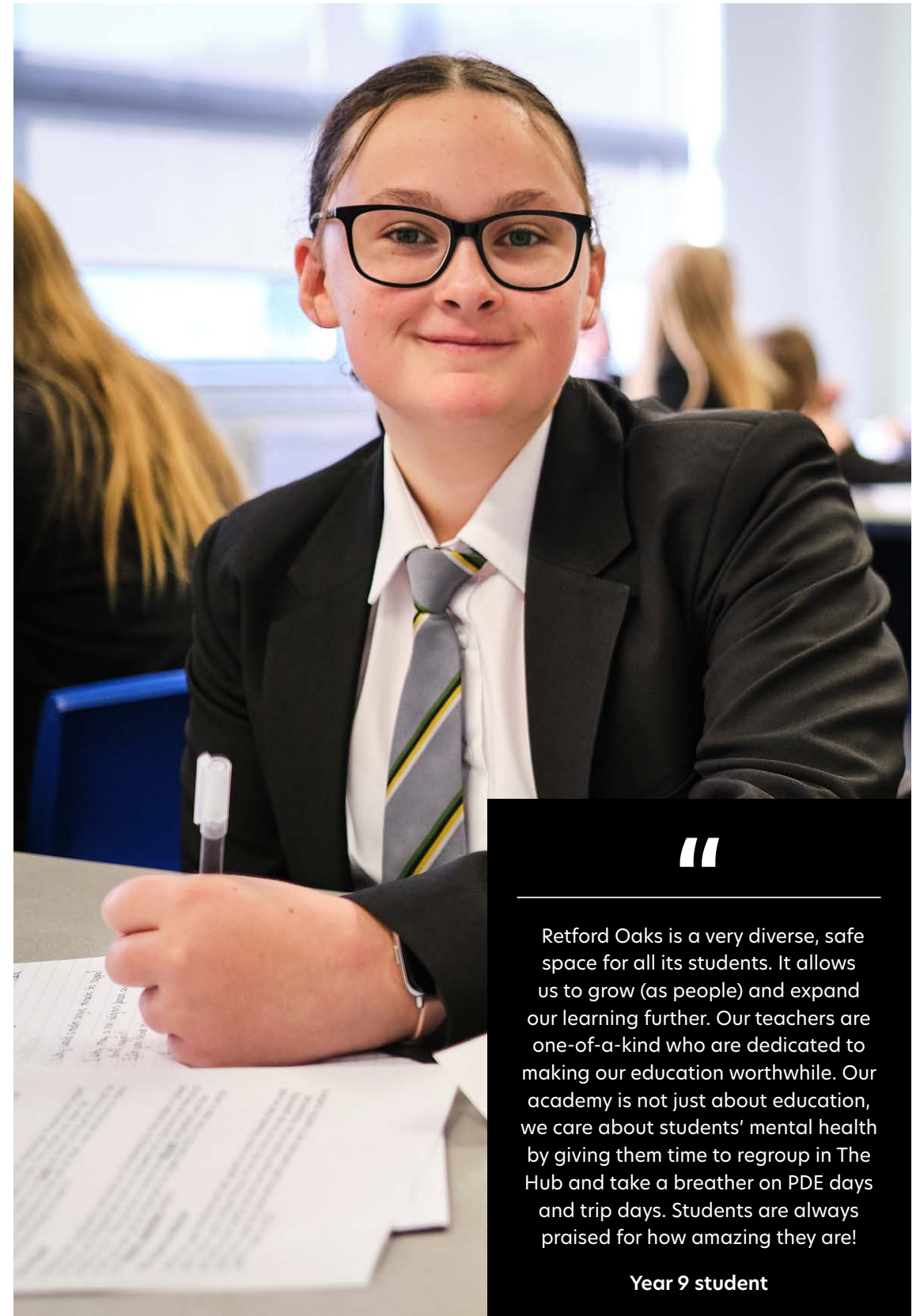
9. Inspirational educators

Our staff are passionate about teaching. They are committed to fostering a learning environment where students are encouraged to ask questions and think critically.

10. Commitment to reading

We strongly encourage the benefits of reading for pleasure and personal development. Both our students and staff are dedicated to reading every day in our designated DEAR (drop everything and read) time.

VISION, VALUES AND ETHOS



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Retford Oaks is a very diverse, safe space for all its students. It allows us to grow (as people) and expand our learning further. Our teachers are one-of-a-kind who are dedicated to making our education worthwhile. Our academy is not just about education, we care about students' mental health by giving them time to regroup in The Hub and take a breather on PDE days and trip days. Students are always praised for how amazing they are!

Year 9 student

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 holistic education 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 aspirations.

To create brighter tomorrows.

Our values

We empower

We respect

We care

INSPIRING MINDS



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I like coming to Retford Oaks because we have amazing trip days. We also have many fun days like sports day as our teachers are competitive! We also get to voice our own opinions so if we need anything we can say it. We have a great outdoor area, there is lots of space to be outside. It is also very diverse and helps us make new friends.

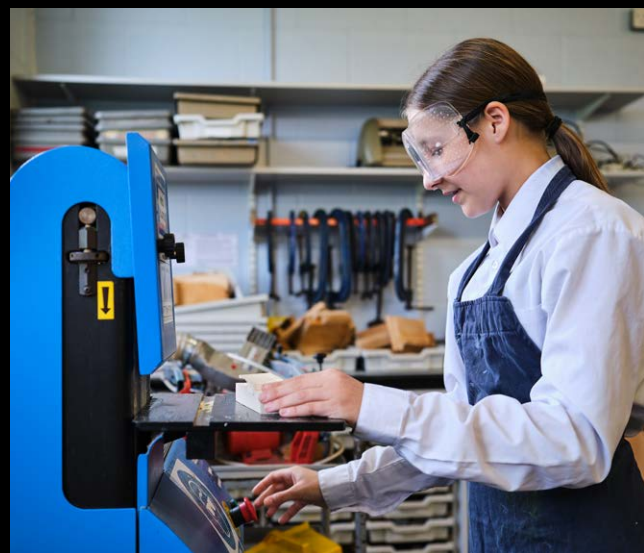
Year 8 student



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

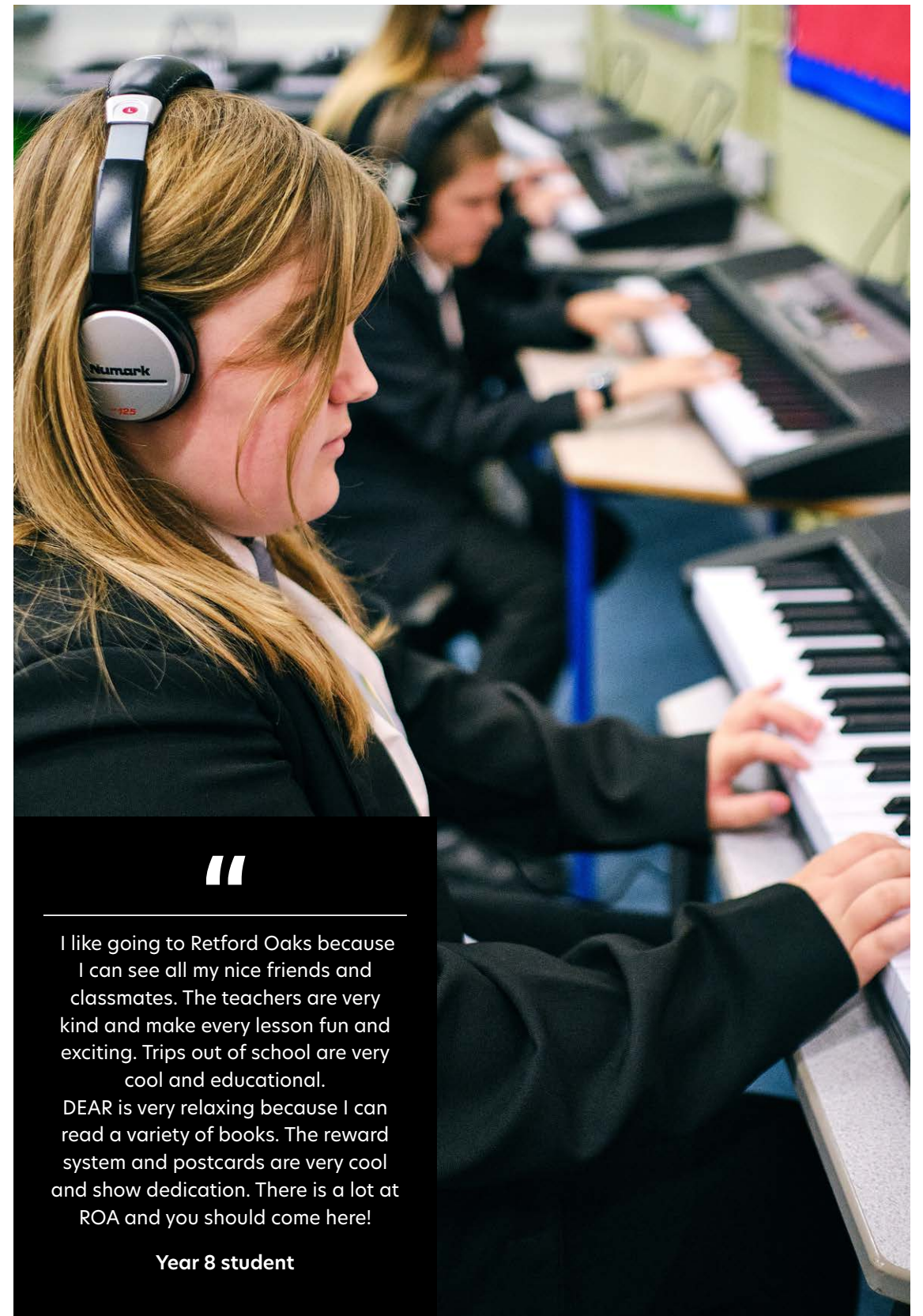
Hard work, excellent behaviour and a commitment to learning are essential requirements for all students. Lessons are developed to be appropriately challenging and are delivered through a variety of methods to engage students with their studies.

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



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I like going to Retford Oaks because I can see all my nice friends and classmates. The teachers are very kind and make every lesson fun and exciting. Trips out of school are very cool and educational. DEAR is very relaxing because I can read a variety of books. The reward system and postcards are very cool and show dedication. There is a lot at ROA and you should come here!

Year 8 student

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 - **Clumber, Rufford, Sherwood and Thoresby**. 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. Students are encouraged to shape their educational experience and environment by contributing to our student voice panel, fostering a sense of ownership and empowerment in their academic journey.

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

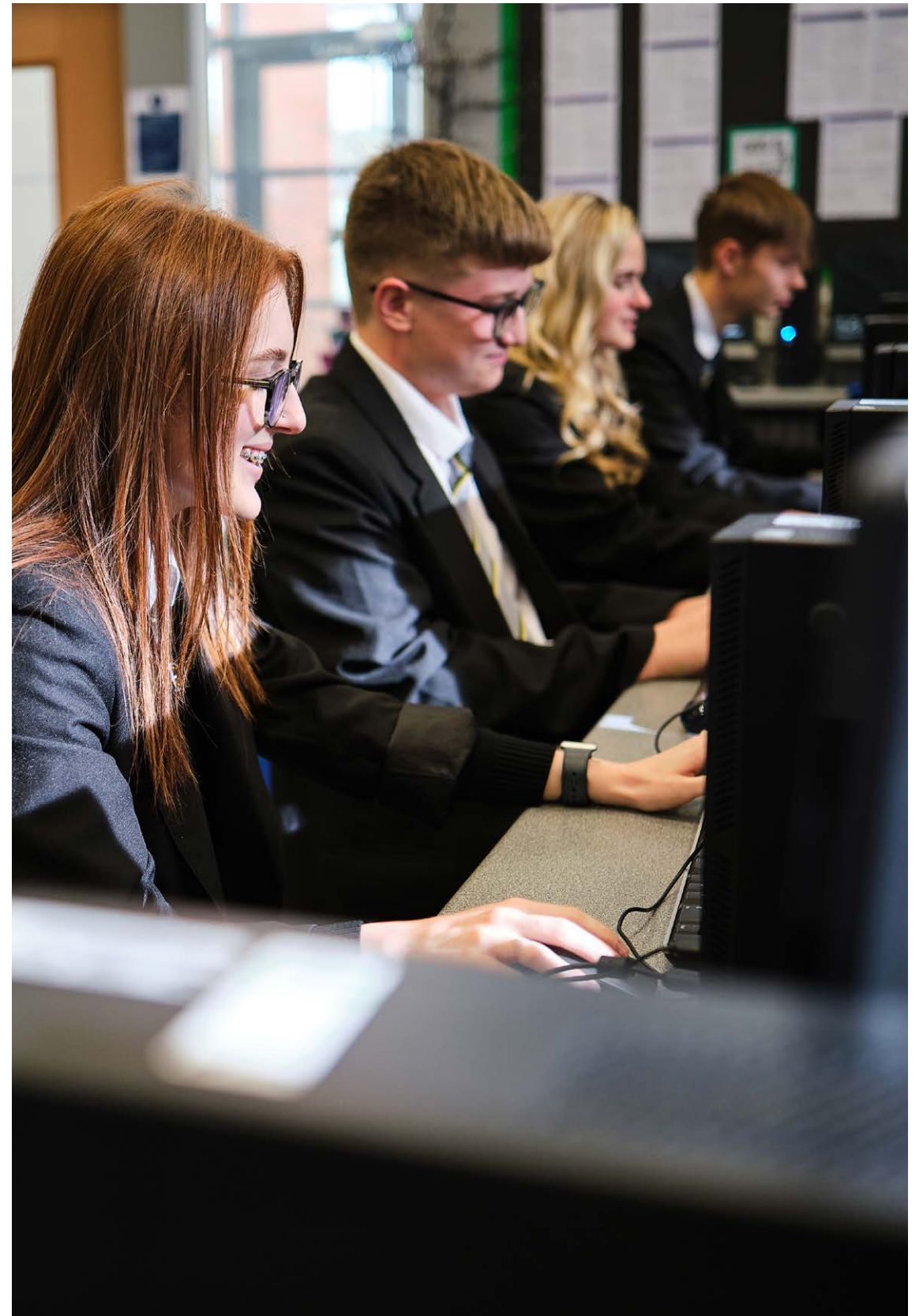


A photograph of two young boys in school uniforms walking and laughing. They are wearing dark blazers, white shirts, and striped ties. The boy on the left has a 'Thoresby' logo on his tie, and the boy on the right has a 'RETFORD OAKS' logo on his blazer. They are standing in front of a wall made of vertical wooden slats. The lighting is warm and golden, suggesting late afternoon or early morning. A blurred woman is visible in the foreground on the left.

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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Diverse Academies Trust (Old Hall Drive, Retford, Nottinghamshire, DN22 7EA; registered company number 07664012) is a not for profit charitable trust with exempt charity status, registered in England and Wales.