RETFORD OAKS ACADEMY

WELCOME

Part of Diverse Academies



WELCOME

We are committed to providing an exceptional educational experience where every student is supported to achieve their very best. We serve our community with pride, fostering a culture of high expectations, ambition, and a shared dedication to excellence.

High quality teaching, a broad and balanced curriculum, and modern, well-equipped facilities ensure that students are challenged, inspired, and prepared for future success. Learning at Retford Oaks Academy goes beyond the classroom, capturing students' interests and imaginations through a wide range of enrichment activities and wider development opportunities.

Personal development is central to academy life. Through exceptional pastoral care and a strong values driven approach - we empower, we respect, we care - students are supported to grow socially, emotionally, and academically in a safe and nurturing environment.

A diverse programme of extra-curricular activities, educational visits, and experiences complements academic learning, helping every student to develop confidence, resilience, and character.

We warmly invite you to visit Retford Oaks Academy at one of our open events or through a private tour, where you can experience first-hand what makes us truly 'Oaks and proud'.



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

We champion physical and mental wellness through targeted programmes, quality facilities, and a 3.15pm finish, giving students and teaching staff more time to rest, recharge, and spend time with family.

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 nice school, we get offered many different varieties of opportunities, such as music lessons, the school musicals, different sports clubs and a lot more. I enjoy this school because the teachers and staff make our school community the best it can be.

Alara, year 8

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 have enjoyed being a student and all the lessons here at Retford Oaks. I have excelled in all my core subjects as all the teachers provide us with passion, leadership and valuable life skills for the future. I really loved sports day and found it one of the best days at the academy. Our motto is "we empower, we respect, we care" and we really mean it. Retford Oaks is the best school and you should join!

Charlie, year 9



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

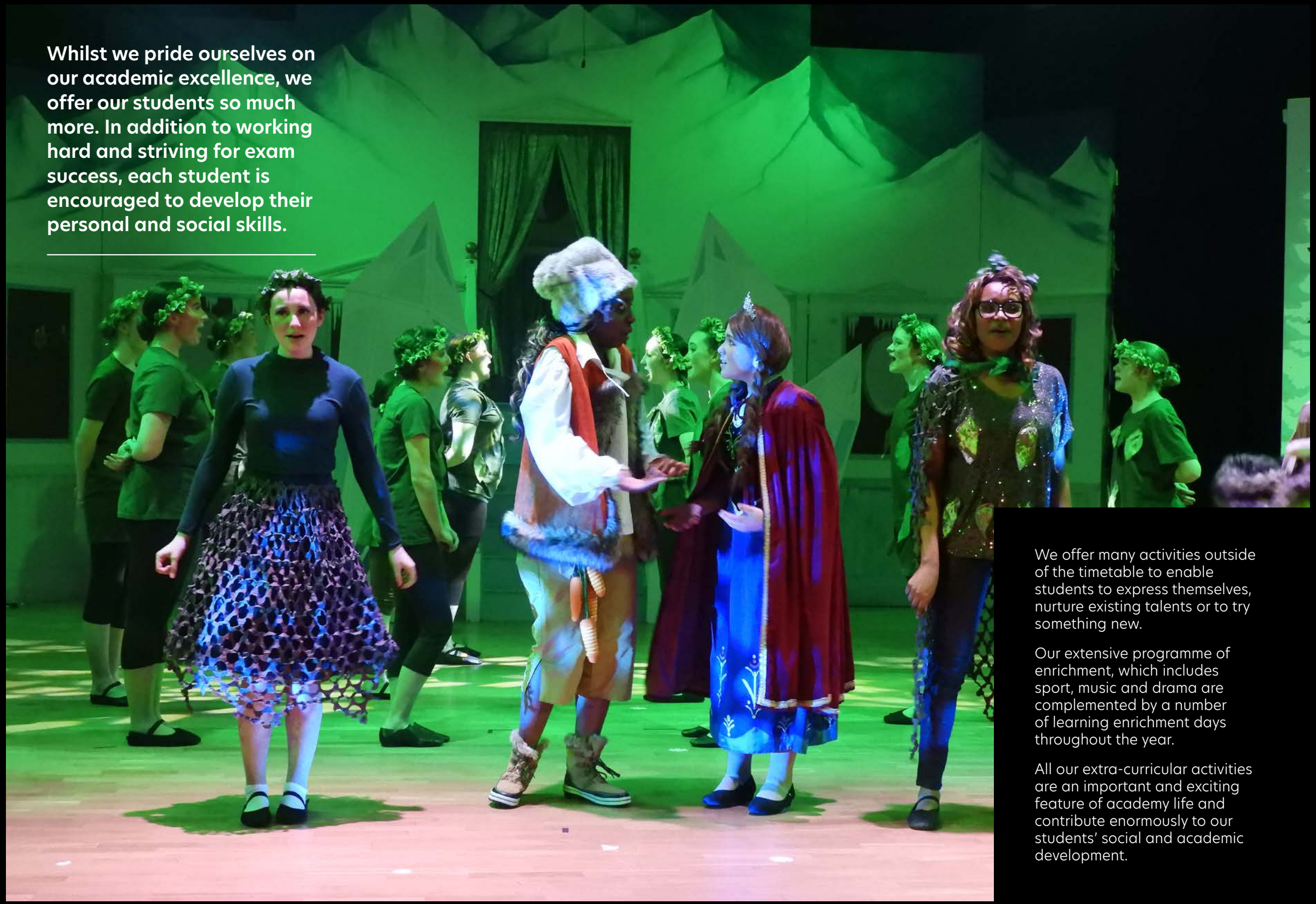


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Secondary school is a journey, and you grow up a lot while here. The teachers, pupils and staff provide an environment where you feel safe and treated with respect. It is the perfect place to be for the years of your life that are spent at school, and I hope you choose to spend it at Retford Oaks.

Carys, year 7

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



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Retford Oaks values our wellbeing and mental health by putting the students first. As a member of the student voice team, I've experienced first-hand how our school listens to us. They don't just focus on maths and English, but they help us excel in leadership, teamwork and life skills. Retford Oaks is the best school because they care.

Harvey, year 9



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
Babworth Road, Retford, Nottinghamshire, DN22 7NJ

Contact us

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office@retfordoaks-ac.org.uk
www.retfordoaks-ac.org.uk

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