



Everything is possible for one who believes

Mark 9:23



Prospectus

**Bradford
Forster Academy**
A Church of England Academy





Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for your interest in Bradford Forster Academy and for taking the time to read our prospectus. Choosing the right secondary school can make a huge difference, not only for your child, but for the whole family, and we're keen to showcase the opportunities our school can offer.

Dear Parents and Carers

It is a privilege to write to you as Headteacher of Bradford Forster Academy.

Choosing the right secondary school is one of the most important decisions you will make for your child. At Bradford Forster Academy, we are determined that every young person who walks through our doors feels safe, valued, and inspired to achieve their very best.

Our ambition is simple: excellence for every child, every day.

We believe that background should never determine success. We combine high expectations with strong pastoral care, ensuring that students are both challenged academically and supported personally. Our staff are committed, skilled and deeply invested in helping young people grow into confident, respectful and resilient individuals.

At Bradford Forster Academy, we are building a culture where:

- Classrooms are calm, purposeful and disruption-free
- Teaching is consistently strong and knowledge-rich
- Character, integrity and kindness matter
- Effort and achievement are recognised and celebrated

We value partnership with families enormously. When school and home work together with clarity and shared expectations, children thrive. You can expect clear communication, high standards, and a relentless focus on improvement.

Our community is diverse, vibrant and full of potential. We are proud of that diversity and committed to ensuring that every student feels they belong and can succeed here.

Whether your child is academically ambitious, creatively talented, practically skilled, or still discovering their strengths, Bradford Forster Academy is a place where they will be encouraged to aim high and supported to reach those goals.

I look forward to welcoming you and your family, and to working together to ensure that your child flourishes during their time with us.

With best wishes

Mr D Styles
Headteacher
Bradford Forster Academy

Our School

Bradford Forster Academy ticks all the boxes in terms of educational excellence. But we're so much more than that. We strive to set our children on the best path for their future, by instilling self-belief and self-confidence in what they can achieve.

At Bradford Forster Academy we are proud that our student-centred learning is founded on a Christian ethos to provide high-quality education for all, encouraging academic, vocational, mental, physical and spiritual opportunities for everyone. Although Christian principles underpin our work, our students are supported to explore their own spirituality and to recognise and understand the beliefs of others.

We set high standards and we have high expectations at BFA, for both learning and personal development. Our staff and student support teams are committed to developing and showcasing opportunities for our pupils to ensure that they have the same hopes, aspirations and ambitions for themselves as we do for them.







Our Vision

Our aim at Bradford Forster Academy is to support our students to be aspirational, confident, caring young individuals who have the belief, knowledge and life skills to make a positive contribution to their local community and wider society.

We encourage our students to have:

Belief:

to always be the best versions of ourselves that we can be.

Faith:

to find and follow our path in life from a place of faith, knowledge, skills and family support.

Aspiration:

to achieve greatness and have the courage to flourish with love, compassion and humility.

“

**Everything is possible
for one who believes**

Mark 9:23

”



Our Values

Endurance

We know that we need to keep going, in spite of things being hard at times, in order to grow, improve, become stronger and achieve.

“

Let us run with endurance the race marked out for us.

Hebrews 12

”



“

Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do; and he will show you which path to take.

Proverbs 3:5-6

”

Trust

We know and understand that we have to trust each other and trust in the rules to keep us safe, as well as develop a strong and supportive community that can rely on each other at all times.

“

But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.

Romans 8:25

”

Hope

We recognise that those with hope work hard, and believe that even if things don't work out straight away, perseverance and determined effort will bring them achievements in the end.



Forgiveness

We recognise that everyone makes mistakes, but that our mistakes teach us how to improve. We understand that forgiveness helps us as well as those we forgive.

“

Do not judge others and you will not be judged. Do not condemn others or it will all come back against you. Forgive others, and you will be forgiven

Luke 6:37

”

Our values of Hope, Endurance, Forgiveness, and Trust are core to everything that we do, and drive our decision making within and around the academy.



To **empower and inspire** our students to **work hard** and make good choices based on a **strong moral purpose** developed by being part of a Christian **values-driven** community with a **high achieving** culture.

To ensure our students **acquire valuable knowledge, skills and behaviours**, along with an appreciation of **the power that love and learning** can give them, so they can make a **positive contribution** to their community and wider society.

To build **character, resilience, tolerance and ambition** in our young people through encouragement to **overcome barriers**, recognition of the **value of diversity** and **celebration** of their achievements.

To **serve our community** by providing the highest quality of education and support that **removes barriers, scaffolds success** and **raises aspirations for all**.

Our Mission





Ethos & Culture

Our core values embody all that we do at Bradford Forster Academy, and we work hard to ensure our ethos and culture is one that demonstrates them at all times. We have high expectations - of our students and our staff - but these expectations go hand in hand with the highest levels of pastoral care and support.

We start our school day together, as a faithful family community, taking two minutes to pause and reflect, to prepare us for the day ahead.

Each and every day:



We celebrate success within and beyond the Academy, recognising that achievement comes in many forms and often in spite of hidden barriers.

We work together to overcome potential barriers to learning, build resilience to keep going, even when things are difficult, to a shared goal of success.

We have a 'can do' attitude.



We work as a team with our staff, students and families to sustain our continuous determination and drive to be the very best we can be at all times, always showing respect for others, our environment and ourselves.

We have created a successful culture, learning climate and ethos by putting student learning, achievement, attainment and wellbeing at the heart of all our decisions and actions.



We are committed to providing opportunities for our students to explore their own and other faiths and experience a range of different options for their future success in higher education, apprenticeships, or employment, knowing we will support them all the way.



A place of learning

Bradford Forster Academy was purpose-built in 2015 to provide a welcoming learning environment for its students. As well as tailor made classrooms for the core curriculum subjects, we also have specialist areas for food technology, resistant materials, art, graphics, textiles and electronics. We also offer a state-of-the-art drama studio - with full lighting rig and blackout for performances, music studio and four practice rooms. Plus, all sports are catered for with our full-sized sports hall, activity studio and external multi-use games area.

Our new extension is home to an Alternative Provision Centre, two additional science labs (taking us up to eight in total) and a multi-use space that is used for assemblies, collective worship and other school events.

Our curriculum

The aim for our students is that they leave us as responsible, well-rounded individuals, equipped with all the necessary tools to lead a happy and successful life. We believe that our curriculum provides all students - irrespective of their ability or background – with the opportunity to access a rich and wide variety of subjects. Our committed staff are skilled and experienced at providing quality learning, which delivers both academic and vocational opportunities.

In Years 7-9 students will have timetabled lessons in the following subjects:

English

Mathematics

Science

Religious Education

Physical Education

History

Geography

MFL - Spanish

Art

Performing Arts

Music

Technology - Resistant Materials

Technology - Food Technology

Technology - Product Design

Technology - Textiles

Computing

Personal Development

In Years 10 and 11, students choose their options. In addition to the curriculum subjects above, they can choose from BTEC/GCSE options such as Health & Social Care, Travel & Tourism, Business, Photography, Sports Studies and Citizenship.





The wider curriculum

Our extra-curricular programme enhances our timetabled curriculum and provides a huge range of opportunities for your child to enrich their school experience.

We offer opportunities to get involved in a wide range of sporting, musical, academic and practical activities outside lesson time. These activities help students **develop their interests and talents**, help them understand about collaboration, teamwork, social interaction and self-discipline alongside independence and resilience. They also allow students the opportunity to **extend their learning and understanding** through additional academic support sessions that deepen understanding and address areas of difficulty through intervention sessions in specific subject areas.

Careers

Bradford Forster Academy provides **excellent support for careers**, with our own, full-time specialist Careers Adviser in school, providing guidance from Year 7 upwards. The Careers Adviser guides Year 9 to choose their options, as well as supporting applications for college courses, apprenticeships and work placements in Year 11.

PSHCEE & Personal Development

Alongside our academic subjects, our students follow a **comprehensive programme focused on personal development and life skills** through our PSHCEE programme. This is delivered by form tutors each week and in our Personal Development Days across the year. It equips our students with the understanding and skills to enjoy healthy, safe, responsible and fulfilled lives in modern Britain. We want all our students to develop spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding, alongside financial and political awareness, and we explore the British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance.



Support for your child

At Bradford Forster Academy your child's mental and physical wellbeing is a priority. This is why we invest heavily in training our staff and support network so that our students receive the highest level of care, support and guidance.

As well as our Chaplain, pastoral support, student advocates and mentors, we also have a multi-professional team responsible for attendance, behaviour and learning, to ensure any barriers to their education are addressed and removed.

Externally, we collaborate with counsellors, youth support workers and healthcare providers as well as the Safer Schools Partnership Police Officers and the School Nurse service, to help us respond to any additional staff and student needs.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is a real strength of our school and something we are very proud of. We want all of our students to see Bradford Forster Academy as a place where they feel safe and listened to, which is why we have a large, specially trained team, spread across the school. These staff members are easily identifiable by their silver lanyards and we encourage any child, or parent, to discuss their concerns as soon as they arise so we can act accordingly to support them.

Responsibility

From the moment they arrive at Bradford Forster Academy, your child has the opportunity to make a difference. The student council empowers pupils to make their voices heard by discussing issues and making suggestions on how things can be improved for our academy. By Year 11, students have the opportunity to become prefects/senior students where they can assist in school decision making. Now that the school is fully grown, we aim to widen our influence and develop responsibilities in the wider community, encouraging citizenship activities that help support our local families and neighbours.

Transition & Attendance

Transition to Secondary

The step up to secondary from primary school is a big jump and can be equally exciting and daunting for students joining us from Year 6. Our staff are experienced in managing that transition, and as well as regular visits to our feeder primary schools, we ensure we address any anxieties a parent or child may have, by creating communication streams from early in Year 5.

As soon as your child joins us in Year 7, their form tutor will play a pivotal role in their life. The form tutor will be your child's first point of contact each day, as well as your contact should you have any concerns or questions about your child's personal wellbeing or academic performance. Along with their form tutor, they will have a Head of Year and a Pastoral Support Officer allocated to their year group, who will oversee their care and offer support and guidance throughout their time with us.

Attendance

Research shows that there is a clear correspondence between attendance, academic success and personal development, which is why it is vital that your child attends school EVERY day. If a student is not in school, they simply cannot take advantage of the excellent opportunities that are available to them.

We expect every child to attend school 100% of the time and we reward those who achieve that. We have high standards and high expectations for your child, and we need them to be in school, in lessons and learning every day, to benefit from our expertise - and the learning experience in the classroom - so that they can achieve their true potential. We work collaboratively with students and parents to address any difficulties, or barriers to attendance, for the benefit of every child. Although absence due to genuine illness is unavoidable, our minimum expected attendance for students is 97%.



About Bradford Diocesan Academies Trust

Bradford Forster Academy falls within the Bradford Diocesan Academies Trust (BDAT). BDAT is a multi-academy trust supporting a number of primary and secondary academies in Bradford. BDAT is the only Church of England multi-academy trust operating in Bradford, as part of the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales.

A member of the
bdat
family

Bradford Diocesan Academies Trust is a charity, governed by a board of trustees who are responsible for, and oversee, the management of the company. You can find out more by visiting www.bdat-academies.org

Mission Statement

To provide high quality education within the context of Christian belief and practice so that every child can fulfil their academic potential and accomplish their individual goals.

Rationale

We believe that every child has only one chance at a good education.

Vision

That every student in a BDAT academy gets a happy and high quality education enabling competence, confidence and character to thrive; and that our Academies become the schools of choice in Bradford.



Contact Us

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