

HUMMERSKNOTT ACADEMY



ACADEMY INFORMATION



Hummersknott Academy Trust • Company Registered Number 7664322 • Registered in England and Wales
Registered Office: Edinburgh Drive, Darlington, Co. Durham, DL3 8AR

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hummersknott Academy Trust

Hummersknott Academy is the lead member of Hummersknott Academy Trust, a multi academy trust formed on 1 February 2013, which includes Hummersknott and Skerne Park Academies. The latter is a partner primary school for Hummersknott Academy.

Hummersknott Academy

Hummersknott Academy is a larger than average 11-16 school that serves a diverse community and is situated in a very pleasant residential area on the south west outskirts of Darlington. The town has good transport links and offers easy access to the Yorkshire Moors, Dales and the coast as well as the cities of Newcastle and Leeds.

Hummersknott is a rewarding place to work, we are gifted with a very committed and highly professional staff and a student body who are only too ready to rise to the challenges we set before them.

The school was opened by the Duke of Edinburgh in 1955 as a Girls Grammar School. Reorganisation in 1968 led to the school becoming comprehensive. It is now an 11-16 mixed Academy with approximately 1220 students. Students achieve high standards at both key stages.

The Academy is highly regarded by the community and is consistently oversubscribed.

We have approximately 165 staff (teaching and support) who provide a curriculum to cater for the needs of all students. Improvement centres around developing more effective teaching and learning in every classroom. Curriculum development and strong guidance and welfare are also central to our strategies for raising standards. Whilst academic success is central to the work of the Academy, we place an equal emphasis upon the social, moral, spiritual, cultural and personal development of each child. This is reflected in the strong College system and the wide range of extra curricular activities on offer.

The Academy takes 240 students each year and these are organised into ten form groups. Most of the students are drawn from the local community which is one of the most affluent in the North East. However, a significant number of students are drawn from areas of the town which are amongst the most deprived in England. We also draw students from nearby villages.

Guidance and Welfare

Students are placed in one of five Colleges. Each College is led by a full time College Manager and an Assistant Principal. The five Colleges are:

Cuthbert
Ketton
Quaker
Stephenson
Wyvern

Each College has around 240 student members drawn from all five year groups. Each student is allocated to a

mixed ability form group. Form Mentors follow their form through the school and are responsible for monitoring the personal and academic development of each student. Students are registered in their College blocks and regularly meet for assemblies.

The College system is also the basis of a great deal of extra curricular activity with competition in sport, music etc. Extra curricular activities are a strength of the Academy with a wide range of clubs and trips both in this country and abroad. Destinations include Spain, Germany, France and Italy. In previous years, students also trekked in the Himalayas and visited China and Russia. The Academy offers the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme to all students in Years 9, 10 and 11. Students can also join the Hummersknott detachment of the Army Cadet Force based in the Academy. In addition to these, the Learning Resource Centre is available for study after school, with staff on hand to help students. A team of Learning Mentors also support students' learning.

It is our expectation that all staff treat students with respect and adhere closely to all our policies in relation to the safety and welfare of every child.

The Curriculum

The curriculum is based around eight faculties:

English
Maths
Science
Languages
Technology, Business, ICT and Art
Humanities
PE and Performing Arts
Individual Needs

Students are organised into nine teaching groups in Year 7 and ten in the rest of the school. Where possible, subjects are taught as either a third (Year 7) or half of the year group (Years 8 to 11). The three to five groups in every year are timetabled with a Faculty at any one time enabling them to organise teaching groups in line with the needs of each student and the subject.

At Key Stage 3, students follow the full national curriculum. Drama is also timetabled as a separate subject in Years 8 and 9. All students study French in Year 7. They then choose a second language from German or Spanish in Year 8. Less able students do not take a second language, using these lessons to focus upon improving Literacy.

Students choose their Options for Years 10 and 11 in February of Year 9. Students have a common core made up of:

English Language
English Literature
Mathematics
Science (from Combined Science Trilogy or Triple Science)
Citizenship/Life Skills
PE
Careers Education

Religious Education
One Modern Foreign Language

Students then follow one of three pathways. Most choose three options from the list below. Some choose a Technical Qualification (BTEC or Cambridge National) as one of the option subjects.

Options Include:

Art & Design, Business, Computing, Drama, Geography, History, Creative I-Media Studies, French, German, Spanish, Music, Photography, PE, sport, Religious Studies, ICT, Health & Social Care, Food Preparation and Nutrition, Systems Electronics, Graphic, Resistant Materials, Textiles.

Department for Education Headline Measures 2021 (as at September 2021):

All students	% Achieving grade 4+ in English and maths (standard pass)	% Achieving grade 5+ in English and maths (strong pass)	% entered for full EBacc	Average points score for Ebacc	Progress 8 Score	Attainment 8 Score
Hummersknott 2021 (Teacher Assessed Grades)	80.9	58.1	54.7	5.16	N/A	56.40
Hummersknott 2020 (Centre Assessed Grades)	81.4	57.1	55.0	4.98	N/A	55.3
Hummersknott 2019	74.4	48.7	55.6	4.58	+0.03*	51.6
Hummersknott 2018	75.9	52.6	59.9	4.66	-0.03	51.1
National Data for state funded schools 2019	64.2	43.3	38.4	4.04	-0.02	46.5

Languages

We are strongly committed to the development of language skills amongst our students. In a world facing increased globalisation and a European Community which enables free movement for work, we must ensure those who leave Hummersknott Academy have every opportunity to compete with their counterparts in Europe.

We offer French, German and Spanish to GCSE. We are involved in a variety of partnerships with schools in other countries. This involves study visits to Germany, France, Italy and Spain. These projects involve most curriculum areas in the school. We are always looking to develop further links.

Staff Development

We are committed to continuous improvement. This is the only way that we can ensure all our students get the very best education. A key part of this is developing the skills of all the staff who work at Hummersknott. Training needs are identified through the Academy Improvement Plan and Appraisal process and staff have good access to training.

ITT and NQT support are recognised nationally as being exemplary. We have a continuous programme of development for Subject Leaders. We have also achieved the NQT Induction Quality Mark.

Determining Salaries

Hummersknott Academy Trust's Pay Policy states that the salaries of new staff will be set within the range for the post as set out in the staffing structure and in accordance with the Pay Policy. In determining the starting salaries for individual staff, including the award of any discretionary payments as allowed for within this policy, account will be taken of:

- the skills, experience and relevant qualifications of the individual
- market conditions
- any specific restrictions set out in the School Teachers' Pay & Conditions document
- the employee's current salary level

Newly Qualified Teachers in their first year will normally be paid on the minimum of the Main Pay Range.

For new appointments, Governors may take into account relevant experience in prior employment outside of secondary school teaching. This would normally be one point for every three years' service.

There is no assumption that an employee will be paid the same rate they were being paid in a previous school. New appointments will normally be appointed at the next point above their current salary when taking up their post in September or in the September following appointment. Governors may choose to vary this in light of the conditions stated above or where a teacher has had a large break in service, taking into account all of their duties under equal opportunities legislation.

Progression on the pay spine is subject to review by Governors each year. Staff are required to meet or show good progress towards their appraisal targets, as well as showing they have taken full responsibility for their own development. Teaching has to be judged to be at least good over the year.

Equal Opportunities

The Academy is an equal opportunities employer. We ensure that no job applicant or employee receives less favourable treatment because of race, colour or nationality, sex, marital status, religion or disabilities. Selection criteria and procedures will be frequently reviewed to ensure that individuals are selected or promoted on the basis of their individual relevant merits and abilities. All employees will be given equal opportunities and, where appropriate, further training, to progress within and beyond the organisation.

Disclosure of Criminal Convictions

Under the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act, 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975, applicants are

required to disclose information concerning convictions including those for which other purposes are regarded as spent under the Act. If you take up an appointment with the Academy and you have failed to disclose such information this will be considered a serious matter and may lead to an offer of appointment being withdrawn, disciplinary action or dismissal. Any information will be treated in strict confidence and with discretion.

For more information about the Academy and to see our digital turn page prospectus, please visit our website at:-

www.hummersknott.org.uk

HUMMERSKNOTT ACADEMY

**Edinburgh Drive
Darlington
Co Durham
DL3 8AR**

Tel: 01325 241191

E-mail: enquiries@hummersknott.org.uk

Website: www.hummersknott.org.uk

Principal: Mr J Keating