



Ready for the Future

DIVERSE COMMUNITY





“Alicia brings both a wealth of experience and a passion for seeing young people succeed in her care.”

Welcome from our new Principal

Lancaster Academy is a place where young people are inspired to achieve, encouraged to believe in themselves and supported to thrive. We are committed to an exceptional education, one that sets high aspirations alongside outstanding care.

Proudly serving families across our city, our diverse and inclusive community is built on shared values, strong relationships and a real sense of belonging. Every student deserves the opportunity to succeed, and we work hard to make certain each of them feels valued and supported in taking it.

Belonging is not something a school can simply declare. It has to be built, and it is built by listening. Student voice runs through the decisions we make here, including the shape of the school day itself. Our students told us that break and lunchtimes had become something to get through rather than something to enjoy, and we agreed with them. Those times now belong to them once more, with a full programme of clubs and outdoor activities running through the middle of every day, from sport and music to quieter spaces for those who prefer them. It is in these unhurried moments that friendships form and confidence grows.

Alongside this sits a steady focus on broadening horizons, building character and cultivating ambition. Through high-quality teaching and enriching opportunities, we give students the knowledge, skills and confidence they will need for whatever comes next. As a parent myself, I know how much it matters that your child comes home each day feeling that they matter, that they belong and that somebody is on their side.

We warmly welcome you, and we invite you to come and see everything that makes Lancaster Academy such a special place to learn, grow and succeed.

Alicia McElhill

Principal



“The school has high expectations for pupils, and of how pupils should behave.”

Lancaster Academy is a welcoming, inclusive school

Pupils from different backgrounds and cultures, and with a range of talents and needs, form a harmonious community. Pupils treat each other respectfully. The mutually respectful relationships between staff and pupils are evident in this caring school.

This school is ambitious for all pupils. Leaders ensure that all pupils study a wide range of appropriate subjects and take qualifications that prepare them for their next steps in education. The well-designed and well-delivered curriculum is helping pupils throughout the school to make progress

The school creates a culture of aspiration and shared success,

Pupils with SEND get the support they need to learn well.

The school encourages and supports pupils to attend school regularly.

Pupils take on leadership and ambassador roles in school.

At Lancaster Academy, we are committed to helping every young person grow, achieve and thrive. Through high-quality teaching, inclusive practices and enriching partnerships, we create opportunities for students to flourish both academically and personally.

Our diverse and supportive community is built on strong relationships, high expectations and a shared belief that every student can succeed. We celebrate individuality, nurture ambition and ensure that every young person feels valued, respected and empowered to reach their full potential.

At Lancaster Academy, we are proud to provide a learning environment where excellence, inclusion and opportunity go hand in hand. We warmly invite you to discover what makes our academy such a special place to learn, grow and succeed.





“The mental health and wellbeing of students have a high priority. Inclusion is central to this issue, and students are made to feel that they truly belong.”



Belonging

At Lancaster Academy, we believe that every child deserves to feel that they belong. We know that when students experience a genuine sense of belonging, they are more likely to attend regularly, achieve well and enjoy positive mental health and wellbeing. Feeling connected to others, valued for who they are and supported through challenges gives young people the confidence to engage fully in academy life and reach their potential.

From the moment students join our academy, we take the time to get to know them as individuals. Through strong relationships, excellent pastoral care, our Personal Development curriculum and high-quality teaching, we create an inclusive environment where students feel safe, respected and empowered to be their authentic selves. We celebrate individuality, nurture strengths and provide the support every child needs to flourish academically, socially and emotionally.

Our staff play an active role in academy life, building meaningful relationships and modelling the values we want our students to embody. We notice when a student needs encouragement, recognise when they need support and celebrate their successes, big and small. By working closely with families, we ensure that every child feels valued, cared for and inspired to do their very best each day.

“We feel welcome” (Y11 student)

“Strong, respectful relationships between staff and learners were frequently noted. Learners feel safe, supported, and motivated to engage.”

“Learners treat each other with kindness.”

“... warm interactions, purposeful learning, and a calm, open-door culture that signals trust and transparency.”



“The student leaders were equally impressive, articulate, confident, and clearly proud of their school.”

Leadership

We believe that belonging extends beyond the classroom and into the wider community. Through leadership opportunities, student voice, enrichment activities, sport, the arts and community projects, students develop confidence, character and a sense of purpose. Whether raising money for local charities, performing in care homes, taking part in environmental initiatives or supporting younger pupils in local primary schools, our students learn the importance of service, responsibility and making a positive difference to others.

By celebrating diversity, encouraging participation and ensuring every voice is heard, we foster a culture where students feel proud to belong and are supported to succeed. As a result, they leave Lancaster Academy READY for the future, equipped with the confidence, resilience, knowledge and skills to flourish in education, employment and their communities.

“Students are extremely proud of their school, noting the family feel that staff generate.”



4. TEST
YOUR
HYPOTHESIS

5. ANALYZE
YOUR DATA

6. DRAW
CONCLUSIONS




Lancaster
Academy



“The school’s values help students to become responsible and self confident”

Partnerships

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*“You feel like you matter
at Lancaster.”*

Fostering Early Connections

At Lancaster Academy, we know that a successful start begins long before a student's first day. Our commitment to fostering early connections ensures that every young person feels confident, prepared and excited about joining our community. Through our comprehensive transition programme, students have opportunities to become familiar with Lancaster Academy, meet key staff and begin building positive relationships before they officially start.

All Year 6 students joining Lancaster Academy are invited to take part in our Eat, Meet and Greet events, giving them the opportunity to meet fellow students and staff in a welcoming environment. They also attend a transition sports event and a dedicated transition day, providing first-hand experience of academy life, our routines and our expectations. These experiences help to reduce anxiety, build confidence and ensure that students feel ready for the move to secondary school.

From their first day, students are supported by a dedicated pastoral team committed to helping every young person thrive both personally and academically. Form tutors, Heads of Year, counsellors and specialist support staff work together to ensure that students receive guidance, encouragement and support whenever it is needed. By knowing our students well and providing early support, we help them develop the confidence, resilience and character needed to succeed.

Through strong transition experiences and meaningful early connections, we lay the foundations for students to flourish, ensuring that every young person is READY to embrace the opportunities and challenges of life at Lancaster Academy.







“...pupils with SEND get the support they need to learn well.”

A Place Where Everyone Belongs

At the heart of our school is a warm, inclusive community where every single child belongs, feels valued, and is empowered to reach their full potential. We are deeply committed to supporting our mainstream students on the SEND register, including those with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs), by creating a nurturing environment where they can truly thrive.

We believe that meaningful learning flourishes through positive relationships. Our teaching colleagues highly plan for every individual, crafting bespoke classroom adaptations that celebrate unique learning styles and remove barriers. Together, we ensure that every student feels safe, connected, and fully equipped to succeed.

Mainstream SEND

Our exceptional team of Level 3 Teaching Assistants (TAs) is dedicated to guiding students on their journey toward independence. They wrap tailored support around our learners both inside and outside the classroom, working thoughtfully to help students engage with their learning as independently as possible. This specialist team delivers high-quality, targeted interventions across a wide range of essential areas, including:

- **Academic Growth:** Focused support in Reading, English, and Maths to build confidence and unlock keys to the curriculum.
- **Communication & Wellbeing:** Dedicated Speech and Language sessions alongside nurturing Social, Emotional, and Mental Health (SEMH), Emotional Literacy (ELSA) interventions.
- **Sensory Support:** Tailored sensory breaks and strategies to ensure students feel comfortable, safe, and ready to learn.



The Brook - Specialist Base (DSP)

The Brook is our specialist base for learners with an Education and Health Care Plan who benefit from additional support around communication and interaction needs. The Brook offers a calm and structured learning environment. It is fully staffed by expert practitioners. Here, we blend targeted academic interventions with vital life-skills training.

- Expert Colleagues: Specialist teachers and dedicated support assistants.
- Tailored Learning: Individual education plans designed for unique needs.
- Full Integration: Seamless opportunities to join mainstream classes and activities. Brook lessons are delivered within mainstream classrooms.
- Therapeutic Spaces: Modern sensory areas built for calm and focus.
- Holistic Focus: Equal emphasis on academic progress and emotional well-being.

We partner closely with families to build confidence, independence, and a lifelong love for learning. Our external Team of Experts include Educational Psychologists, Speech and Language Therapist, Social and Emotional Mental Health Specialist, Learning Communication and Interaction Specialist, Vision and Hearing Team Teachers, Assistive Technology Teacher.

“The Lancaster DSP continues to provide a nurturing, structured and communication-supportive environment for its Year 7 cohort” (Learning, Communication and Interaction Support Team visit June 2026)



MULTIPLICATION GRID

X	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
3	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36
4	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48
5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
6	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
7	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70	77	84
8	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96
9	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90	99	108
10	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
11	11	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	121	132
12	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144

Lancaster
Academy





“We love having mor of a student voice, being listened too and seeing change.”

Student Ambassador Teams

The Student Ambassador Teams aim to ensure that every students' opinions are heard and valued, to provide the opportunity to work collaboratively with staff to improve the school community, and to promote an inclusive, positive, and supportive learning environment for all students.

“...strong belief that their voice matters.”

The Senior Leadership Team consists of Y11 students who complete a rigorous application and voting system to become Principal Ambassador, Vice and Assistant Principals. and then will lead on one of the following Student Ambassador Teams:

- Quality of Education SAT – shaping what we learn, how we learn and how we are assessed
- A,C,E (Attitude, Commitment, Excellence) SAT – making sure everyone lives the Lancaster values and feels respected and included.
- Health and Wellbeing SAT – helping shape the curriculum that prepares you for life beyond school.
- Leadership SAT – making sure our school runs fairly and supports everyone to succeed.
- Operations SAT - working with our Operations Manager to ensure efficient, robust, and sustainable systems are in place that create the best environment for our students.
- Belonging SAT – making sure we are a fully inclusive school.



“Questioning is skilfully used to check for understanding, deepen thinking, and address misconceptions. Cold calling and targeted questioning are used with precision.”

Learning within the Classroom

At Lancaster Academy, teachers ensure that lessons are EPIC; engaging, positive, inspiring and challenging, for every student, every lesson, every day.

Lessons are structured and sequenced following a clear set of expectations that are evidenced in their success at facilitating effective learning and ensuring students learn more and remember more. Regular and well-spaced retrieval and recall activities ensure that students have the knowledge and skills they need in their lessons and beyond. Teachers regularly check that learners understand what has been taught, addressing knowledge gaps quickly and successfully.

“The ambitious curriculum at Lancaster prepares students for forthcoming examinations and onwards, their futures. In its implementation, the skilful sequencing of lessons enables them to build on existing skills and knowledge.”

“Learners feel safe, supported, and motivated to engage. Teachers know their learners well, which supports them to adapt their approach to meet individual needs.”

“Relationships between teachers and students are built on trust and mutual respect. This adds to a highly positive learning environment”







“A DofE programme helps young people build the skills and attitudes that make for rounded, confident adults, and those are the qualities colleges, universities and employers look for.”

Learning Beyond the Classroom

An outstanding education extends far past the school gates. We seamlessly integrate outdoor education and personal growth into our core offer. Students build resilience and teamwork through sessions such as the Forest School and nationally recognised Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Our vibrant school library is strategically equipped to harness and maximize every learner's reading potential. A bustling after-school club offer includes Archery, Dance, Debate Club, and countless other creative and physical activities.





“The mental health and wellbeing of students have a high priority. Inclusion is central to this issue, and students are made to feel that they truly belong.”

Thrive personally

At Lancaster, learning goes beyond the classroom. Our diverse and inclusive enrichment programme gives every student the opportunity to thrive through the discovery of new interests and the development of their talents, confidence, resilience and teamwork.

Students at Lancaster are able to access a range of clubs, trips and enrichment opportunities which include:

Duke of Edinburgh’s Award

Students take on new challenges through expeditions, volunteering, physical activity and skills development, building independence, resilience and valuable life skills.

Sport

From inter-house competitions to fixtures against other schools, students have regular opportunities to compete, represent Lancaster and develop teamwork, discipline and sportsmanship.

Sports Leadership

Students take on leadership roles as captains, coaches, officials and mentors, developing confidence, communication and decision-making skills while supporting younger students and local primary schools.

Trust-wide competitions

Our debate competition develops confident speakers and critical thinkers, giving students a platform to share their ideas and engage with the world around them.

Participation in our Trust Talent Show and Christmas Show gives students the opportunities to showcase their talents, develop confidence and creativity, and celebrate their achievements with the wider school community.

The Chess competition is a popular event with students from across our secondary and primary schools competing to be crowned the Trust Chess Champion – checkmate!

Music

Students are able to access instrumental lessons, Brass and String Groups, Music Theory Club, graded examinations and performances. Partnerships with the London Philharmonia and local community organisations provide inspiring opportunities to perform and work with professional musicians.



Lancaster Academy





"We want to make a difference to as many people, as early in their lives as possible. Lancaster Academy shares these values and is working with us to create outstanding and authentic learning experiences in a real working environment."

Rob Day, Chairman & Founder, Blueprint Interiors

Results and Life Beyond Lancaster

At Lancaster Academy, success is measured not only by examination results but also by the opportunities our students secure for the next stage of their education. Nevertheless, many of our students achieve strong outcomes across both our academic and vocational qualifications, reflecting both their hard work and the dedication of our staff. Through our inclusive approach, we are committed to ensuring that every student, regardless of starting point, is supported and challenged to achieve their very best.

We are particularly proud that the majority of our students secure places at their preferred post-16 provider each year. Lancaster students progress to a range of further education providers (sixth forms, colleges and specialist providers), pursuing courses that match their interests, aspirations and talents. This success reflects the quality of the guidance and support students receive throughout Key Stage 4, as well as the strong relationships we maintain with local post-16 providers.

Preparing Our young People for Success

At Lancaster Academy, success is measured by examination results and by the opportunities our students secure for the next stage of their education. Many achieve strong outcomes across both academic and vocational qualifications, reflecting their hard work and the dedication of our staff. Our inclusive approach ensures that every student, whatever their starting point, is supported and challenged to achieve their best. We are proud that most of our students secure places at their preferred post-16 provider each year, progressing to sixth forms, colleges and specialist providers on courses that match their interests and talents. This reflects the quality of guidance students receive throughout Key Stage 4 and the strong relationships we maintain with local providers.



“Students are keen to learn and are polite”

Together we achieve more

Lancaster Academy is part of the Learning without Limits Academy Trust that formed in 2016, set up to serve the communities of Leicester City and the surrounding areas. The Trust now supports five schools, across both primary and secondary phase. We work closely with other schools in the trust and benefit greatly from the relationship.

The close geographical location of our schools means that we can easily share opportunities and experiences that significantly improve the life chances of our students. Put simply, together we achieve more.

A collaborative approach to school improvement gives our academy the best opportunity to improve and sustain improvement over time. Lancaster Academy draws on, and contributes to, the wealth of experience, expertise and knowledge across the Trust so that students can be the best that they can be.

Part of what we experience, being part of the Learning without Limits Academy Trust, is a resource dedicated to providing our staff with a range of opportunities that develop their own skills which allow them to thrive in the education setting. This investment results in Lancaster Academy students benefiting from a highly motivated, dedicated and professional team of staff.

Working within the Trust provides a multitude of opportunities for our students to shine and be the best that they can be so that they can develop and grow into confident and responsible citizens, READY for the future. Please book an appointment to visit us during our working day.

READY FOR THE FUTURE





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Lancaster Academy is proud to be part of Learning
without Limits Academy Trust.
Winning Hearts, Inspiring Minds.

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