



Bluecoat Aspley

believe in yourself, in others, in God

**Believe in
yourself,
in others,
in God**



Principal's Welcome

I am truly honoured to be the Principal of Bluecoat Aspley Academy. This is an Academy where we do our utmost to prepare our students for future success and we pride ourselves on working with the whole child, not solely on academic performance. It is important for our students to be confident, resilient and, most importantly, for them to believe, "Believe in yourself, in others, in God".

We are proud to be a Church of England Academy, welcoming people of all faiths, built on the values of family, hope, respect and faith. We are a truly diverse Academy that welcomes students and staff from all backgrounds. Becoming a member of Bluecoat Aspley Academy means a welcome into the Bluecoat family, with the first pupils being taught at Bluecoat in 1706, this family is steeped in a wonderful history in Nottingham which we celebrate and build upon each day.

As an Academy we prepare our students for academic success but do ensure that we provide a broad and balanced curriculum, including opportunities

and pathways in the Arts, Enrichment, Sport, as well as many other areas. We are all learners and it is this philosophy that ensures the Academy commits to professional development for our staff which will continue to enhance the experience for our pupils at Bluecoat Aspley Academy.

Matthew Turton
Principal
Bluecoat Aspley Academy



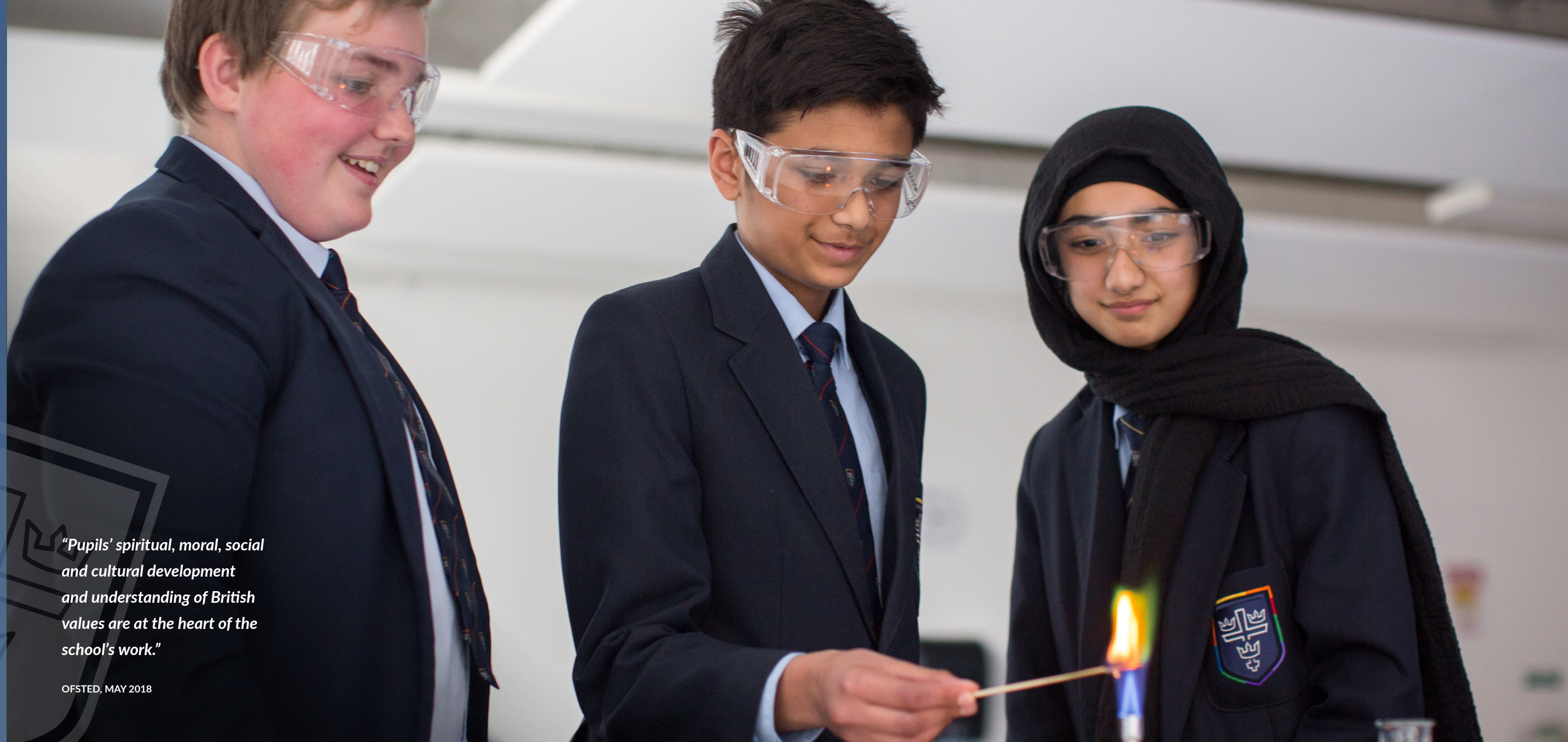
"Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and understanding of British values are at the heart of the school's work."

OFSTED, MAY 2018



01

Believe in yourself, in others, in God



Ethos and Values

Our Vision: *Through believing in ourselves, in others, in God, we aspire to be courageously inclusive*

We are a Church of England Academy and our mission is to create a distinctive educational community for all based upon Christian faith and values. Our ethos is based on our mission statement 'believe; in yourself, in others, in God.' This is grounded in the principle from the Bible to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and love your neighbour as yourself" (Luke 10:27).

Our belief is that every student is unique and valued by God. This is critical to the relationships and personal approach to the curriculum that we take with every young person. We aim to develop confident students that have a strong sense of justice and doing what is right.

We encourage students to develop belief in themselves in order to be the best they can be. Our students are resilient, they can work independently and have a good understanding of where they have come from and who they are. We want our students to never lose hope, hope is at the centre.

Our belief is that we should value, care and respect each other. This is reflected in the harmonious family that makes up Bluecoat Aspley. Students feel part of a local, national and global community, believing in others and working together towards a common purpose. Students develop into respectful, supportive and considerate members of the community who are passionate about making a difference.



*"A harmonious community where
behaviour and relationships
are excellent and everyone is
respected."*

SIAMS, SECTION 48 SCHOOL INSPECTION,
MAY 2016

Values: *We live out our vision through our values:*

Family

Family: *Can love as God loves (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)*

We are very proud of where we call home in Bluecoat Aspley and everyone who is part of our family and have been since we first opened in St Mary's Church Archway in 1706. We welcome all.

Hope

Hope: *Can ignite future success (Jeremiah 29:11)*

Without hope, where are we?

Through believing in ourselves, we pray that all of our students and staff will go on to reach their full potential. Through careers, work experience, pastoral support and care, as well as CPL development for our staff, it is our hope that all members of our family will be aspirational and go on to achieve their dreams.

Respect

Respect: *Can set an example to the world (Titus 2:7)*

Our family is made up of people from different backgrounds, beliefs and abilities. We are rich because of this. We respect our differences and celebrate them, as well as celebrating that we are all human and children of God.

Faith

Faith: *Can move mountains (Matthew 17:20)*

Our faith runs through everything we do. We are a Church of England Academy and our explicit about our faith. We welcome all faith backgrounds and celebrate this.



03

Believe in yourself, in others, in God



04

Believe in yourself, in others, in God

Curriculum

The curriculum offered at Bluecoat Aspley Academy reflects its learners: it is diverse, vibrant and driven by a desire for success. It equips our students with the necessary knowledge, skills and confidence to succeed throughout their time at the Academy and excel in the next steps in their educational journey, be that at the Academy Sixth Form, university, college, apprenticeship or employment.

In Year 7, 8 and 9, students follow a curriculum that is broad and balanced which includes experiences from the Arts, Design Technology, Humanities and PE to the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science. We believe that students should be fully prepared for their future experience so we ensure that Knowledge, Skills and Understanding taught during their early secondary years are closely aligned to requirements later on.

Students then personalise their curriculum by making curriculum choices in Year 9 to begin in Year 10 which include a wide range of GCSE and Vocational courses. Assessment in these courses takes place in a variety of forms including Non Examined Assessment during the course and public examinations at the end of Year 11.

All subjects and qualifications are carefully selected to provide the best possible range of opportunities for our students and provide a platform for continued study through to the Sixth Form. Sixth Form students choose from over 40 courses at both level 2 and 3 including 'A' levels and vocational qualifications which are assessed through Non Examined Assessment and public examinations at the end of Year 13.

“Leaders provide pupils with a wide range of subjects and different approaches to learning. They design the school’s curriculum to meet the needs of different pupils.”

OFSTED, MAY 2018



“Teachers use strong subject knowledge to plan interesting learning activities. A variety of teaching approaches and appropriate use of technology engage pupils and match their different learning styles.”

OFSTED, MAY 2018

Teaching and Learning

At Bluecoat Aspley we understand the important role of high quality teaching and learning in transforming pupils into highly literate, independent and responsive learners.

Our focus is to grow pupils with **CRITICAL thinker skills** (Challenged, Resilient, Independent, Thoughtful, Imaginative, Collaborative, Leaders) **and having the ability to self-regulate**. We want to prepare our pupils so that they can go into the world with the key skills that will allow them to aspire to be whatever they hope to be and form an integral part of society.

We weave these skills throughout our curriculum, homework and tutor periods to build in opportunities for pupils to practice these skills in a safe and inclusive environment where all pupils are valued

and supported. Students are rewarded and celebrated for the exceptional display of these skills.

We believe that learning should be engaging, rewarding and challenging, in a supportive environment. Our staff are experts in their fields, using their subject knowledge and passion for teaching and working with young people to produce inspiring lessons that produce exceptional results.

Homework is focussed around two key areas, prepare activities (flipped learning), allowing pupils to come to lesson ready to learn and retrieve activities that strengthens pupils knowledge.



05

Believe in yourself, in others, in God



06

Believe in yourself, in others, in God

Pastoral Care

Pastoral care at Bluecoat Aspley is fundamental as it underpins everything we do to ensure that students feel safe and happy at all times. We go above and beyond to ensure that all the needs of our students are being met and believe communication with parents is essential to ensure we are working together for the best possible outcomes for each child.

Central to the personalised care that we are able to offer is that we have non-teaching Year Leaders whose fundamental role is to ensure that the pastoral support meets the needs of every child and that they are happy and purposeful in their studies. As well as coordinating the year group as a whole, they ensure that the high standards we have are maintained. Their dedication to each child's needs means that transition into, and through our academy, is smooth and successful.

We make no apologies for the unequivocally high standards that we have here at Bluecoat Aspley; we expect students to have excellent behaviour, attendance and attitudes to their learning and support them on their way to achieving this. These are reinforced with a strong rewards system which celebrates the wealth of talents that our students possess, promoting the consistent behaviours that will make them successful beyond our school gates.

Our family-feel permeates the culture that exists here at Bluecoat Aspley. It is achieved by the way in which we also encourage children to support one another and through our belief that anything is possible for the children that we serve. Belief is central to all we do as a church school; 'believe in yourself, in others, in God'.

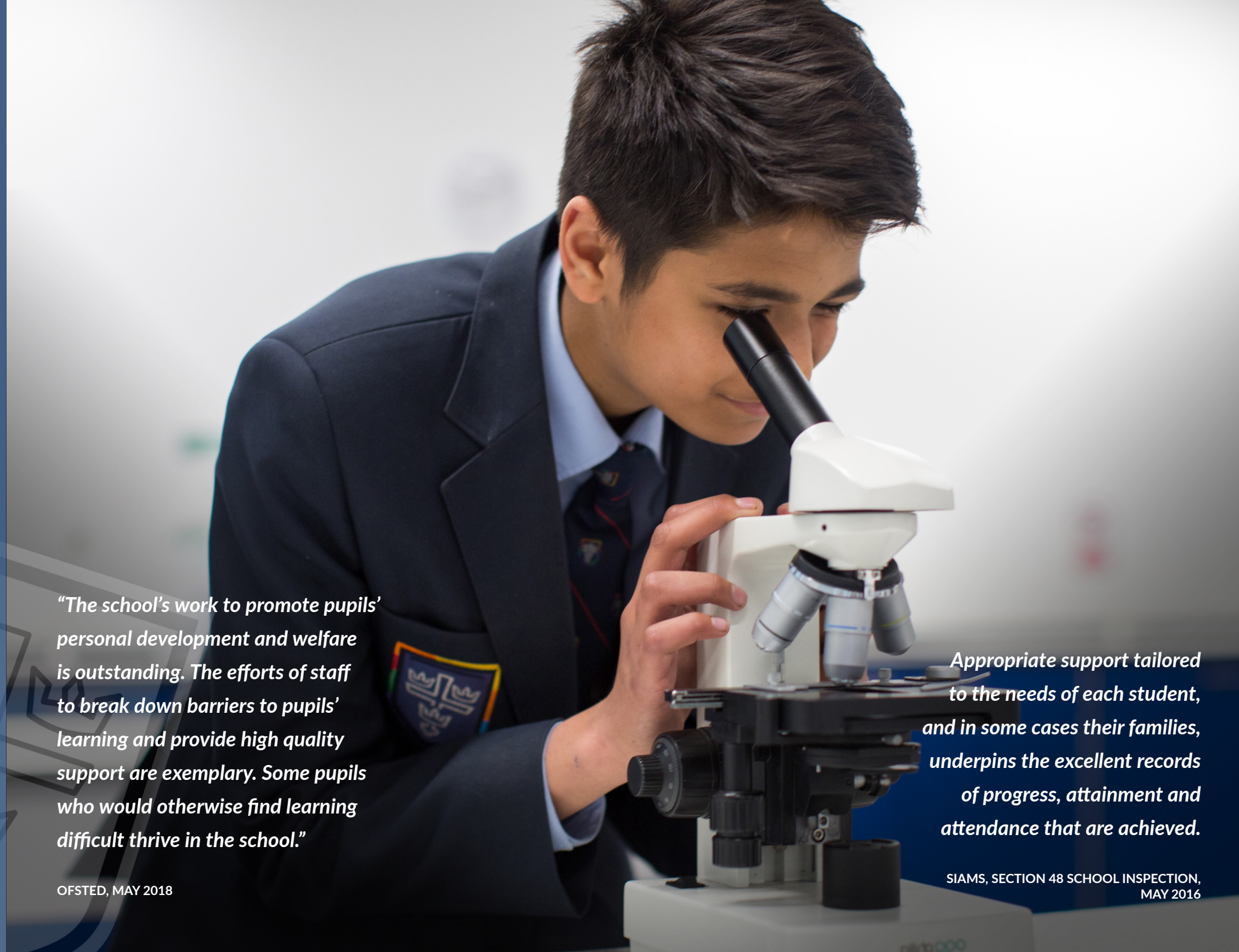
"The school's work to promote pupils' personal development and welfare is outstanding. The efforts of staff to break down barriers to pupils' learning and provide high quality support are exemplary. Some pupils who would otherwise find learning difficult thrive in the school."

OFSTED, MAY 2018



07

Believe in yourself, in others, in God



Appropriate support tailored to the needs of each student, and in some cases their families, underpins the excellent records of progress, attainment and attendance that are achieved.

SIAMS, SECTION 48 SCHOOL INSPECTION,
MAY 2016

Transition

Starting a new school is always daunting but our comprehensive transition programme is designed to give each of the students joining us the very best start to life here at Bluecoat Aspley, to ensure that they are made to feel welcome and part of our 'family' from the outset.

We have students who travel from a large number of primary schools to join the academy, often over 50 schools in any one year group. However, every child is unique and there are lots of activities to make sure staff, students and parents can build good relationships.

As part of this process parents can expect that we will visit each child in their primary school and liaise closely with the staff there. We also offer a number of visits to experience lessons within the Academy in the summer term prior to them starting, so as to make friends and meet new people.

In the first few weeks of starting at Bluecoat Aspley, students will be introduced to new routines and expectations. Within the first month, students will also undertake additional activities to get to know each other including an activity day. Tutors and student leaders will help support these days.

Relationships with home are promoted strongly too. We actively encourage parents to visit us often. With over 300 years of experience, we are committed to fostering the effective partnerships with home that we know will help to make each child successful.

Our mission is to **BUILD** students of the future. We encourage our students to be; **Brave** and to embrace challenges; to be **Unique** by being themselves; to be **Independent** in their learning by using the skills we equip them with; to have a **Love of Learning** that allows greater life chances and to have a **Desire** to be successful.

08

Believe in yourself, in others, in God



Student Leadership

Here at Bluecoat Aspley Academy, we believe students should be given a wide range of opportunities to develop and practise leadership skills in preparation for the challenges of today's "real" world: the responsibilities and needs of life beyond the realms of home and classroom. In order to achieve this, we have created a Student Leadership structure which enables our students to get involved in all different aspects of the Academy.

Our Student Leadership model focuses on our Academy values and our model has 2 central tiers:

- 1) The leadership from our Head Boy and Girl and their respective Deputies.
- 2) The Student Leadership Committee – Each year group has their own committee made up of different roles that are based on our Academy Values.

Each of the roles has their own targets and objectives and every other week the students come together to discuss and plan events, activities and opportunities for their year group.

The aim of Student Leadership at Bluecoat Aspley is to empower students to work in partnership with staff towards shared goals and to enable creativity to flourish as the school community benefits from the wealth of experiences, ideas, skills and sense of fun that students bring. It also provides an opportunity for students to develop leadership skills through a variety of inspiring, challenging and valued projects which impact positively on learning, teaching and well-being for both students and staff. Being part of the Student Leadership structure will prepare students for Higher Education and for achieving personal and professional excellence in life after formal education.



09

Believe in yourself, in others, in God



Enrichment

Bluecoat Aspley Academy is passionately committed to developing every facet of the young people in our care. We believe that while academic success is of prime concern we should treat students as whole people, caring for and encouraging their physical, mental and spiritual potential.

Our enrichment programme reflects this ethos, providing opportunities for all students to explore new interests, challenge themselves and have a lot of fun. Thursday afternoon enrichment for Year 7 is every Thursday afternoon during period 5. The normal timetable is suspended and the Year 7 students take part in enrichment activities.

At the beginning of each term students will choose the enrichment activity they wish to take part in for the two 5 week blocks of that term. Activities include sports such as Basketball, Tennis, Racketball, Cricket and Athletics with professional coaches coming into the academy to lead the sessions e.g. Nottingham Forest, Notts County Cricket Club and the National Ice Arena. There are also other activities such as web design, dance, making films and drama for students to choose along with many others.

The sessions will last 1 hour or 1 1/2 hours depending on the activity and all activities are free of charge. Students are encouraged to choose a variety of options over the 6 blocks in the year.

Lunchtime and after school clubs

We have a wide variety of lunchtime and after school clubs suited to all tastes and interests. These clubs are run by staff who give up their lunchtimes to provide fun places to meet friends and explore new activities. The clubs include sports, STEM, arts, Christian unions, movie clubs, music clubs and much more.

Study clubs

A number of subject specific and general study clubs are available every week in order to enhance and support the curriculum. These clubs run before school, at lunchtime and after school and operate on a drop in basis. The study clubs are there to help with class work, homework and Non Examined Assessment as well as to give support in areas where students may be struggling.

10

Believe in yourself, in others, in God





Bluecoat Aspley Academy

Aspley Lane
Aspley
Nottingham
NG8 5GY

E-mail: office@bluecoataspley.co.uk

Tel: 0115 929 7445

www.bluecoataspley.co.uk



Designed by CODA Education

