

PROSPECTS



Felixstowe
Academy
To make our best better



Felixstowe Academy is a key member of the Academies Enterprise Trust (AET), the operational arm of the Greensward Charitable Trust, which is a rapidly developing network of Academies created to provide thousands of students with the best possible education.

The AET aims to provide the opportunity for all young learners to fulfil their real potential, broaden their horizons and become active, prosperous and successful citizens in the world around them. The AET believes that all young people deserve to become world class learners – to learn, enjoy, succeed and thrive in a first rate educational environment, with the best facilities, the best teaching and the most up to date resources available to them.

The AET is committed to doing everything it can to ensure that young people are able to, in the future, compete on the world stage with the skills, confidence and flair to generate new ideas, new initiatives and thereby make a full contribution to tomorrow's world.

David Triggs

CEO - Academies Enterprise Trust

A Welcome from the Sponsor





The Felixstowe Academy

Felixstowe Academy opened in September 2011 and serves the local community of the coastal resort of Felixstowe.

The Academy is currently delivering education to over 1600 students (approx. 200 in the Sixth Form) on two campuses, Garrison and Maidstone. We have a strong tradition of delivering a rich and varied mixture of subjects enhanced further by the school specialisms of Arts and Technology. Plans are being finalised for the new Felixstowe Academy building which is due to open in September 2013.

Garrison Campus

The Garrison Campus, situated on Garrison Lane in Felixstowe, occupies the site of the original Felixstowe Grammar School with its imposing 1930's facade hiding 21st century resources which serve to deliver a diverse range of exciting and challenging courses to students from age 11 to 19.

Maidstone Campus

The Maidstone Campus is situated on Maidstone Road, a short walk from the Garrison Campus. The building is significantly newer and has generous grounds and purpose built sports facilities including an all-weather pitch. The Maidstone Campus will become the site for the new multi-million pound Academy building which is due to open in September 2013. Building work will start in early 2012.

The Academy at the **Heart** of the Community

The Felixstowe Academy is at the heart of the local community engaging with a wide range of providers to ensure the best for our students, their families and the wider community. The local community, businesses, associated primary schools, other schools and community organisations all form an integral part of life at the Felixstowe Academy. Both campuses offer a range of facilities for use by the local community ranging from the Arts to Sports.

Felixstowe Academy operates on extended hours and designated spaces are available for learning, community and social activities and family education. We endeavour to create an Academy in which the local community can take great pride and that has a reputation for considering everyone's needs - regardless of ability, gender and ethnicity.

The size of the Academy means that we are able to collaborate and share resources between campuses which enables us to provide students with a wide range of courses and individual pathways from Year 7 through to the Sixth Form.



Welcome Message from the Executive Principal Mr S Chamberlain

Welcome to the *Felixstowe Academy* prospectus, and thank you for considering our Academy for the education of your child.

At the Felixstowe Academy our aim is to create a centre of excellence with a clear and unrelenting focus on raising standards of academic performance. We place great emphasis on the support and development of the individual student and on high quality learning so that they will develop into enterprising and responsible young people with high aspirations and a real determination to succeed. The Felixstowe Academy is a place where learning counts and people matter. Our aim is for educational excellence, great achievement and growing aspirations and world class outcomes.

Felixstowe Academy offers high quality teaching, a clear sense of purpose and outstanding facilities. As Executive Principal, with the teachers and other professional staff working in the Academy, we are here to offer commitment and support to your child, to open minds and to open doors to new and exciting opportunities for our young people. The Academy does not function in the same way as a traditional school. Our independent status gives us a flexibility that enables us to be innovative and creative in our approaches to organisation, curriculum and teaching. We are at the forefront of curriculum innovation in making a personalised learning journey for your child a reality.

As Executive Principal, I want our students to be challenged by new and exciting learning experiences and have their personal skills, talents and abilities extended to ensure they achieve their potential. At the Felixstowe Academy, we strongly believe that this combination is essential in ensuring that all students achieve at the highest level possible and develop a real sense of belief in what they can do.

As an independent school, our expectations are very high – attendance, behaviour, uniform and attitudes to learning are all monitored closely to achieve excellence and we demand the very best from all students in order to 'make our best better'. In return, we aim to offer the highest quality of teaching and learning from very committed and highly skilled staff. The Academy provides a safe, secure and inspiring learning environment – your child will be cared for, their self confidence nurtured and mutual respect developed.

The Felixstowe Academy is proud to be part of a wider family of Academies within the Academies Enterprise Trust and the opportunities for support, innovation, collaboration, partnership and excellence that ensures that we fulfil our duty to inspire young people to 'make their best better'.

"I look forward to welcoming you to the Felixstowe Academy"

Transforming Learning, Transforming Lives

Our aim is to **transform** the lives of our students giving them the best **opportunities** to fulfil their **potential**.

In order to achieve this we aim to provide the highest quality education for all our students, raise their aspirations and attainment and build on their individual needs, talents and abilities.

Our key objectives are to:

- Create an environment that promotes world class teaching and develops enterprising minds to help students to prepare for life and the world of work
- Emphasise the development of moral purpose to help students become responsible young citizens who make valuable contributions to society
- Fully involve parents and carers in lifelong learning and community education
- Provide educational opportunities and excellent facilities which are shared by parents, carers and the wider community throughout the whole year
- Ensure our students experience a rich, enjoyable and varied curriculum which fully prepares them for employment, further/higher education and life within the 21st century
- Provide a safe, supportive and caring environment for students where learning counts and people matter and where tolerance, understanding and respect for all members of the Academy and wider community are highly valued
- Develop greater self-belief, responsibility and confidence in all our students
- Promote very high expectations of behaviour, attendance, uniform and attitudes to learning.



Academy Specialisms

The *Felixstowe Academy* specialisms are designed to raise the **aspirations** of all of our students and to impact on the whole of our surrounding community. Unlike many other specialist schools, the *Felixstowe Academy* has two specialisms, **Arts** and **Technology**.

The Academy, with its innovative curriculum and two specialist areas, develops each student's desire to realise their potential and helps them to foster a 'can do' philosophy.

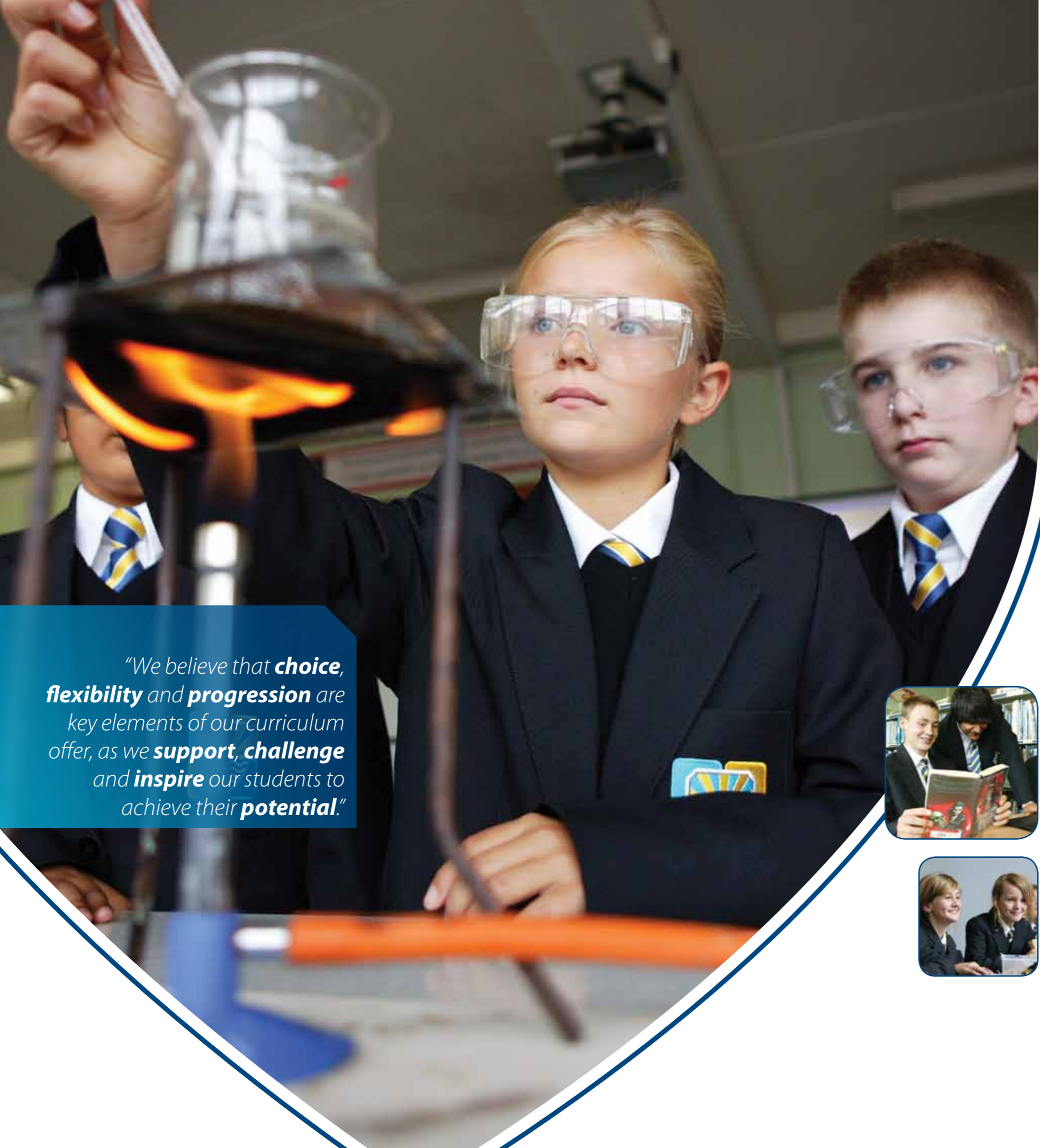
Arts Specialism

Our Arts specialism is seen and valued as a key strength of the Academy. The visual and performing nature of these subjects engage and motivate students, improve standards and encourage retention into the Sixth Form with proper progression routes into further and higher education. The engagement between students in the Academy and members of the local, national and international community is able to flourish through a wide variety of exciting and innovative projects such as the Random Dance residency. Our students worked alongside world famous dance practitioners in filming new and original pieces at Langard Fort relating to the theme of the 2012 Olympics.

This kind of experience helps our students to develop an increased level of communication skills, to develop their self confidence and helps them to develop a greater empathy with, and personal understanding of, others.

Technology Specialism

Our Technology specialism incorporates Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM). A technological approach to learning underpins much of our curriculum, encouraging students to become enterprising and creative problem solvers. Students have opportunities to learn to think creatively, to become autonomous individuals and to work effectively as members of a team. Students are encouraged to develop and combine practical skills with an understanding of the social, economic and environmental issues that affect the project areas within which they work.



*“We believe that **choice, flexibility and progression** are key elements of our curriculum offer, as we **support, challenge and inspire** our students to achieve their **potential**.”*

At the *Felixstowe Academy* we are fully committed to the ‘Personal Learning’ agenda. We believe that curriculum design and its flexibility has a key role to play in meeting the needs of



The Curriculum - an *innovative* learning journey >>

each and every one of our students, allowing them to maximise their potential from their very first day.

We recognise that everyone is unique and during their learning journey students will travel at different speeds using different skills, talents and abilities as they move up through the Academy.

Throughout their time with us our students are guided along a series of ‘Learning Pathways’ that best suit their needs. We believe that choice, flexibility and progression are key elements of our curriculum offer, as we support, challenge and inspire our students to achieve their potential.

Throughout Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8) students follow a wide range of subjects taught by specialists who offer a wealth of experience and support. Subject specialist knowledge is delivered through a whole host of experiences together with the development of the personal, learning and thinking skills.

In Year 9 students are offered Science through a range of GCSE/ BTEC/ Triple Science courses. Coupled with a GCSE in ICT they make their gradual transition into Key Stage 4 continuing with the core subject offer mixed with their choice of option subjects.

In Years 10 and 11, students follow one of four Learning Pathways that lead onto higher levels of learning during Year 12 and 13.

Pathway A:

Designed to equip students with the necessary work-related GCSE equivalent vocational qualifications. Students will be guided in their selection of a learning package of qualifications that will enable them to be fully engaged with learning and to become employable by the end of Year 11. Students will be

able to access ‘Vision2Learn’ which allows them to choose from over 50 vocational courses including the Edexcel Work Skills package. Other short courses that are available to students will include ‘Experience of Work’ which can accredit work experience placements or weekend jobs, awards in Enterprise, Personal Finance and Employability.

Pathway B:

The majority of students follow this pathway. With guidance from their teachers they make four choices from the vast array of GCSE and BTEC courses shown on page 11.

Pathway C:

‘Study Plus’. This exciting course is designed to help selected students achieve success through personalised learning plans and project based lessons as it supports the key skills in English and Maths through ‘extra’ input in different ways.

Pathway D:

Our more advanced students may choose to follow this pathway, completing AS and A2 level courses in Critical Thinking and/or GCSEs in Triple Science.

At KS5 students can follow a wide range of courses that continue and extend the pathways pursued at KS4. We have a comprehensive offer of A Level, BTECs at Levels 2 and 3 which meet students’ needs and aspirations. Students typically follow four A level or level 3 BTEC courses or a combination of BTEC/AS levels and BTEC level 2 courses. Alongside this students attend a guidance session once a fortnight which helps them prepare to become productive citizens.





GCSE / BTEC / AS courses on offer at the *Felixstowe Academy* throughout Key Stage 4:

- GCSE English
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Maths
- GCSE Statistics
- GCSE Science (Triple/Double)
- BTEC Science
- AS Biology
- AS Chemistry
- AS Physics
- GCSE Art
- ASDAN/Life skills
- BTEC Business Studies
- BTEC Carpentry
- AS Critical Thinking
- GCSE Dance
- BTEC Work Skills
- BTEC Engineering
- GCSE French
- GCSE Food
- GCSE German
- GCSE Geography
- GCSE Graphic Design
- BTEC Health Social Care
- GCSE History
- GCSE ICT
- BTEC ICT
- BTEC Land and Environment
- BTEC Media Studies
- BTEC Music
- BTEC PE
- BTEC Performing Arts
- BTEC Performance Studies
- GCSE Photography
- GCSE Resistant Materials
- BTEC Salon Services (Hair and Beauty)
- GCSE Sociology
- BTEC Junior Sports Leadership
- BTEC Sport
- GCSE Textiles
- BTEC Travel and Tourism

Felixstowe Academy Sixth Form

The Felixstowe Academy Sixth Form provides exciting opportunities for the students in Felixstowe. We are an inclusive Sixth Form offering a broad curriculum which has a good balance between traditional 'A' levels, BTECs and opportunities for students who wish to follow a one year link or vocational course. Our aim is to give students the skills, opportunities and qualifications needed to progress into higher education or into the world of work.

Post 16: *Felixstowe Academy Sixth Form*

BTEC level 2 and 3 / AS / A2

Courses on offer at the Felixstowe Academy throughout Key Stage 5

- BTEC Applied Science
- AS/A2 Art
- AS/A2 Biology
- BTEC Business Studies
- AS/A2 Chemistry
- AS/A2 Critical Thinking
- AS/A2 English Language
- AS/A2 English Literature
- BTEC Engineering
- AS/A2 Film Studies
- AS/A2 French
- AS/A2 Further Math
- BTEC Health Social Care
- AS/A2 History
- AS/A2 ICT
- AS/A2 Math
- BTEC Media
- BTEC Music Technology
- BTEC Sports
- AS/A2 Performing Arts
- AS/A2 Philosophy
- AS/A2 Photography
- AS/A2 Physics
- AS/A2 Product Design
- BTEC Production Design
- AS/A2 Psychology
- AS/A2 Sociology
- AS/A2 Textiles
- BTEC Travel Tourism
- BTEC Work skills





"Our aim is to achieve world class learning outcomes for our students through world class teachers in a world class community."

Learning and Teaching / Transforming Learning, Transforming Lives



At *Felixstowe Academy* we believe in developing a **strong partnership** with students to facilitate learning. Students within the Academy are taught in groups that reflect their skills, aptitudes, learning styles, ability and potential. We will drive **innovation** in learning ensuring that the skills, learning and **aspirations** of our students are developed and **enhanced** at all key stages, through creative, collaborative responses to personalised learning and a continuous focus on **improving** learning and teaching within the Academy.

We believe that great learning opportunities are delivered by great teaching. Our aim is to achieve 'world class learning outcomes for our students through world class teachers in a world class community'. We aim for our teaching to be exciting and challenging and for all of our students to achieve the very best they can. At the Felixstowe Academy, learning is a serious business but it can be fun too. We believe that learning is an adventure to be enjoyed, a journey that stretches, challenges and opens minds.

We want all of our students to do well and to fully achieve their potential, whatever it may be, and all of our efforts are focused on outstanding achievement in personal, social and academic terms. To do this we aim to place our Academy at the cutting edge of developments in educational theory, technology, teaching and learning and leadership practices. Our Executive Principal, assisted by a strong, able and dedicated team

of staff, ensure that the values and standards of the Academy are consistently reflected in the care, conduct and commitment provided to our students.

Our students are at the heart of all that we do and our teaching is guided by their needs. All students have a planner that contains their Individual Learning Plans and records work, progress and home learning activities.

Our aim is to personalise and individualise learning as much as is practical through our learning pathways and our focus on learning styles. We aim to create lifelong learners who continue to grow and develop knowledge and skills throughout their lives. 'Learning to Learn' as part of our Competency Curriculum is a cornerstone of our work, teaching students the skills of embedded learning, study skills, revision, thinking skills, problem solving and developing core learning skills such as Literacy and Numeracy.

Tracking the progress and informing parents and carers of our students' progress in academic, social and behavioural terms is very important to the Academy. The Academy holds regular progress meetings where students and parents/carers have an opportunity to meet with subject staff and mentors. Students review their progress with parents/carers and meet with tutors to discuss issues and future targets.

Traditional values in a modern context are at the heart of all we do at the Felixstowe Academy. All students are expected to be dressed in full Academy uniform, which includes a blazer, white shirt with top button fastened and clip-on tie. We expect all our students to be proud of the Academy and our uniform creates the identity and sense of belonging to the Academy community.

Care, guidance and support

At *Felixstowe Academy* we recognise the need for high quality support and guidance to ensure that all our students feel cared for as individuals and can therefore develop to fulfil their potential.



Excellent behaviour is essential in order to learn and it is expected of all students. Our clear 'Discipline with Dignity' Behaviour Policy ensures that students are happy and safe in the Academy so that teachers can teach and students can learn in conditions conducive to making the most of their opportunities.

For the few students who find it more difficult to live up to our expectations and standards, a range of support systems are in place including: the use of revised curricula, tutor support and senior staff intervention alongside clearly established sanctions and specialist counselling. These support systems enhance the opportunity for transformation to acceptable standards. Students are responsible for their own actions and the Academy expects the full support of parents/carers when dealing with students who are challenging our values and expectations.

Great value is put on what our students feel and what they have to say. Students have opportunities to give their views and ideas through Student Council and Future Leaders, Sports and Arts Focus groups, and through posts of responsibility such as Head Boy and Head Girl, peer mentors and Prefects, together with subject specific focus groups and surveys of student opinion. Sharing the leadership of the academy in this way encourages a sense of responsibility and belonging as well as helping them to develop their confidence, maturity and self esteem.

We firmly believe that the positive partnership created between parents/carers, students and staff is the key to a successful, enjoyable and highly valued education. We will work closely with you as parents and carers to ensure that your child achieves their very best in all activities within the Academy. Information on progress will be provided through an online report and through consultation meetings to give you the opportunity to discuss any issues that may arise. Research shows that your involvement in your child's education will make a significant difference – we are committed to helping you achieve this.



If you would like to learn more about the *Felixstowe Academy* please contact:

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Mission Statement

'Our duty is to inspire young people to make their best better'



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