



### GENERAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Walton High opened in 1999 with 120 Year 8 students. Since then the school has grown significantly and now has over 2,000 students on roll, including 300+ Post 16. The school has an excellent reputation and is consistently oversubscribed.

In November 2016, Walton High expanded onto a second campus that is two and half miles away from the Walnut Tree Campus at Brooklands. The Brooklands campus opened with 270 students across Years 7 – 9 and now has 985 students in Years 7 – 11 growing to 1,500 students, including 300 Post-16, by 2022.

When both campuses are at capacity, Walton High is one of the largest secondary schools in the country ensuring excellent opportunities for career progression.

A single system of governance, organisation, leadership and management operates across both campuses.

In 2011 the Governors of Walton High founded Milton Keynes Education Trust with the following aims:

#### Milton Keynes Education Trust Statement of Aims

The educational aims and objectives of Milton Keynes Education Trust (MKET) are based on our commitment to securing social justice through high quality education that promotes inclusion and embraces diversity.

The Trust aims to **enhance** and **enrich** the lives of children and young people by **enabling** them to make the most of outstanding learning opportunities within and beyond the curriculum; instilling an appreciation that there are **no limits** to what they can achieve and developing the attributes needed to successfully shape and respond to the future.

A clear secular moral framework will promote honesty, integrity, tolerance and respect as well as an appreciation of individual and collective responsibility.

In this way we will bring out **the very best** in our children and young people.

We will realise our aims and secure sustainable school improvement through high quality transformational leadership, professional development and collaborative partnerships.

The schools that are currently part of Milton Keynes Education Trust are:

- New Chapter Primary School, Coffee Hall, Milton Keynes
- Heronsgate School, Walnut Tree, Milton Keynes
- Kents Hill Infant School, Milton Keynes



The creation of the multi-academy trust has enabled more cross phase working and the schools within the partnership have pooled resources to provide additional educational services to support children's learning, e.g. Educational Psychologist, Education Welfare Officer and Speech and Language Therapist.

### ***WALTON HIGH'S APPROACH TO LEARNING AND TEACHING***

Walton High is committed to making personalised learning a reality. Our flexible and varied curriculum is an essential foundation for this, providing as it does personal learning pathways which are challenging, relevant and significant.

Personalised learning and teaching is a commitment to ensuring **all learners** reach or exceed expectation, fulfil early promise and develop latent potential. At the heart of personalisation is the expectation of participation, fulfilment and success. Personalised learning sets ambitious objectives, challenging personal targets, rapid intervention to keep students on trajectory and vigorous assessment to check and maintain progress.

Core components of personalised learning are:

**Assessment for Learning** - the process of seeking and interpreting evidence for use by learners and their teachers to decide where they are in their learning, where they need to go and how best to get there;

**Developing students' capacity to learn** - by building the confidence and capacity of the learner and developing personal skills and strategies to enable self-management and self-direction;

**Teaching and Learning strategies that actively engage and challenge learners** - Walton High's approach to lesson planning ensures all the key elements of outstanding learning are considered.



# *Subject Leader of Chemistry*

# *Subject Leader of Physics*

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## SCIENCE AT WALTON HIGH

### OUR VISION

We aim to develop students who are the foundation of a progressive society leading to future prosperity and security. Therefore, we need to educate a new generation of scientists.

We want our students to learn about the world, to grow intellectually and to build upon the achievements of previous generations. We do this by continually examining what, how, why and who we teach.

We believe that all students can learn and that their learning potential is not pre-determined. In order to achieve this, our teachers will develop students as learners by planning inspiring, engaging lessons which set challenging targets for students and support them in reaching those goals. In doing this students will develop as powerful thinkers and problem solvers, ready to shape and respond to the future.

### OUR TEAM

We are a team of 23 specialists teaching across two campuses and supported by seven technicians. Our group of enthusiastic professionals is led by a Director of Science assisted by two Leading Teachers and six Subject Leaders.

We work collegiately – sharing ideas, resources and expertise with each other and with trainees, always with a sense of purpose – and good humour.

We aim to promote innovative practice, both in terms of our teaching and our use of practical activities to enhance learning.

### OUR SCIENCE CURRICULUM

#### **Key Stage 3**

Students are taught essential science skills which encourage them to ask questions, develop and use models, plan and carry out investigations and analyse and interpret data.

Staff have created a modular approach developed from the Collins Scheme of Works at Key Stage 3; all teachers teach modules from across the Sciences.



Both year groups are taught in mixed ability groups.

#### **Key Stage 4**

At Key Stage 4 we aim to match subjects taught with staff background and expertise. The OCR Gateway course has two options, either the GCSE Combined Science or the GCSE Separate Science route.

#### **Post 16**

As would be expected of a thriving and successful department, there is a healthy interest in the Sciences Post16. Typically we have students studying Biology, Chemistry and Physics. All of these students are expected to continue their studies to Year 13 where they take their terminal examinations.

Students study the following subjects at Post 16.

Biology:	OCR A
Chemistry:	OCR A
Physics:	OCR A
BTEC Extended Certificate, Diploma and Extended Diploma in Applied Science.	

#### ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The science team makes a major contribution to Walton High's enriched curriculum. Advanced Learning Days involving Whipsnade Zoo, trips to the National Space Centre and a CSI Murder Mystery have been developed; a well-attended Science Club also runs weekly at both Campuses.

We also offer Master Classes led by scientists from the Open University which is nearby, The Royal Air Force, and STEM ambassadors from Oxford University.

#### FACILITIES ON OFFER

##### Walnut Tree Campus

- There are eleven purpose-built and fully equipped, flexible spacious laboratories on one corridor where all science teaching is carried out. These are supported by two well-equipped prep rooms, and a separate office.
- There is easy access (for the whole school) to the well-resourced ICT rooms, with scientific software and data-logging equipment used.
- We have a dedicated ICT room on the Science floor.
- Every laboratory has its own interactive Promethean Smart board.
- Each member of staff is loaned the use of a networked laptop for use at work and at home.



### Brooklands Campus

- There are 12 purpose-built, flexible spacious laboratories all in one corridor, situated either side of a generously proportioned, well-equipped prep room.
- Well-resourced ICT rooms, scientific software and technician support contribute to the learning and teaching of the sciences.
- Every laboratory has its own interactive Promethean Smart board and desk top computer.
- Each member of staff is loaned the use of an I Pad for use at work and at home.