



## 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 1226 students in Years 7 – 13 growing to 1,500 students, including 300 Post-16, by 2022.

When both campuses are at capacity, Walton High will be one of the largest secondary school 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.



## ***SOCIOLOGY***

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### **OUR VISION FOR OUTSTANDING LEARNING**

We aim to develop students who:

- are stimulated, challenged and enjoy their learning;
- feel ownership and pride in the work they carry out;
- recognise the value of sociology both for themselves as individuals, and for society as a whole;
- are critical thinkers that challenge both their own and others' views;
- are confident, independent learners who can use a range of learning talents.

As teachers, we aim to:

- plan interesting, engaging lessons that allow all to make progress;
- inspire students and encourage a 'love for learning';
- set challenging targets for students and support them in reaching those goals;
- use AfL strategies to identify what progress has been made and by whom;
- give students timely feedback on their work that allows further progress to be made;
- use current examples of sociological issues and debates to 'bring sociology to life';

### **THE SOCIOLOGY CURRICULUM AREAS**

We have two subject specialists within the Curriculum Area as well as other staff who teach sociology as their second subject. Sociology enables us to understand ourselves and students of sociology at both Key Stages 4 and 5 are encouraged to take a questioning approach to evidence and issues while developing their critical and evaluative skills.

### **OUR OUTSTANDING SOCIOLOGY CURRICULUM**

#### **Key Stage 4**

At Key Stage 4 we teach GCSE Sociology (AQA) covering modules including Sociological Methodology, Education, Families and Households, Crime and Deviance and Social Inequality. Walton High operates a three year Key Stage 4 and so students can begin their study of Sociology in Year 9.

#### **Post-16**

Students follow the AQA syllabus at A-Level.

Sociology students at Walton High prepare for the full A-Level qualification and study Culture and Identity, Education, Theory and Methods, The Media and Crime & Deviance.

Staff specialise in certain units within the A Level and groups are split between the teachers.



### **ENRICHMENT**

Enrichment opportunities for students are an important part of our curriculum offer at Walton High. These have included Post-16 research projects and a 'life behind bars' conference. Students who want to further their knowledge and understanding through one-to-one support very well attend weekly support sessions for all year groups.

### **FACILITIES TO SUPPORT OUTSTANDING LEARNING**

- There are dedicated social science rooms at both campuses complete with desktop computers and interactive boards
- There is easy access to well-resourced ICT rooms that can be booked out for lessons.
- Each member of staff is loaned the use of a networked iPad for use at work and at home.

We look forward to meeting you on interview and giving you the opportunity to meet the outstanding sociology team at Walton High.

**Charlotte East**

Assistant Principal