



# PAXMAN ACADEMY

BUILDING BRIGHT FUTURES



# ACADEMY PROSPECTUS

# Welcome to Paxman Academy



It is an absolute privilege to lead Paxman Academy at this exciting and changing time. As the Academy continues to grow we have the opportunity to build on the secure foundations from the last four years.

Paxman Academy is proud to serve the local community. We have a firm commitment to 'Build Bright Futures' for our students by instilling our 'ASPIRE' values. Through these, students flourish whilst with us and more importantly are equipped with an aligned moral compass for lifelong success in the global marketplace.

We are fortunate to be able to provide an outstanding learning environment in our new state of the art building coupled with a wide extra-curricular programme which stimulates the interests of all our students and staff. Working alongside the other 11 Sigma schools in North East Essex, Paxman Academy is furnished with extended resource and support opportunities. Working in collaboration with Trust colleagues we bring quality first teaching and learning to the centre of our own practice.

Above all, Paxman Academy is committed to work in partnership with our community to ensure we better the human condition.

My team and I look forward to welcoming you to our Academy.

Fiona Pierson  
Executive Headteacher



**SIGMA TRUST**

# THE ACADEMY

Paxman Academy is a co-educational, fully comprehensive 11-16 academy. Of the 720 students that have been admitted to the Academy so far, the majority come from Shrub End and surrounding areas, with the remainder from other parts of Colchester. In its first three years of opening, the Academy has been a popular choice and is heavily over-subscribed.

The Academy has a STEM focus and works with other organisations to enhance the quality of provision. We also share our excellent facilities across Sigma schools in Colchester to enhance provision in a number of subject areas.

Paxman Academy prides itself on the quality of its staff. The combination of experience, expertise, enthusiasm and commitment ensures that students, parents and carers receive the best possible service.

The Academy has state of the art buildings. The excellent specialist facilities include:

- Six Science laboratories that have been equipped to the highest standard
- Excellent technology facilities, including two well-equipped workshops
- A computer suite, equipped with the most up to date hardware
- A large auditorium to enable high quality performances to take place
- A dance studio with a sprung floor
- A drama studio
- A music suite, including three practice rooms and a control room for the auditorium
- A large sports hall
- Large playing fields
- An artificial 3G pitch (currently under construction)
- A library
- The latest classroom technology to enhance students' learning experiences





# SIGMA TRUST



## THE TRUST'S MISSION

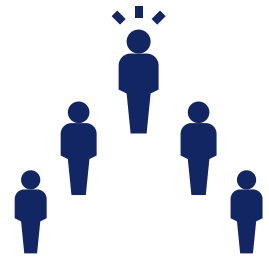
To be '**Greater Than the Sum of Its Parts**' represents the mission statement for Sigma Trust.

The Trust believes we are stronger and more successful working together than we would be as separate institutions. The mission for each academy within Sigma Trust is to ensure that no child is left behind. Education should foster in its learners a curiosity to discover who they are and what they are capable of, together with developing the resilience for them to test the boundaries of their abilities, and build the skills necessary to face the future with confidence.



## THE TRUST'S VISION

The Trust's vision is to ensure that all of its academies are at least 'Good' with strong and improving outcomes and are able to demonstrate outstanding provision.



## THE TRUST'S VALUES

**Integrity:** be honest, transparent, trustworthy and true to your beliefs.

**Passion:** be positive and enthusiastic about what you are trying to achieve.

**Aspiration:** aim for your best and set high, realistic goals.

**Resilience:** never give up and strive to improve.

**Accountability:** take responsibility for your words, thoughts and actions.

**Respect:** for yourself, your environment and other people.



SIGMA TRUST

Telephone: 01255 750900

Facsimile: 01255 473174

Email: [admin@sigmatrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@sigmatrust.org.uk)

The Sigma Trust, Tendring Education Centre, Jaywick Lane, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, CO16 8BE

# THE ACADEMY'S MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

Paxman Academy is committed to providing an ordered, stimulating learning environment in which all students are encouraged to achieve their best. It is determined that all students should be valued through the provision of a broad, relevant, balanced and challenging curriculum that caters for individual needs. This is encouraged within an atmosphere of mutual respect.

The Academy recognises its role within the broader community. It is determined to maintain a STEM focus throughout the curriculum and across extended learning opportunities. It identifies learning as a lifelong process and values the contribution made by parents and others to the creation of a partnership. Within this partnership, and through learning opportunities provided, students will develop skills, attitudes and values that prepare them to accept the challenges and responsibilities of adult life.

## VISION

Paxman Academy embraces the values of The Sigma Trust to ensure **We Build Bright Futures** so that all students will fulfil their potential and transform life chances for all.

We do this by developing productive, positive working relationships, so that every student is valued as an individual who is known and respected within an ordered and purposeful community that prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life in modern Britain. Inspiring the next generation, encouraging ambition and aspiration by fostering excellence in learning through first class teaching across a broad range of subjects.

By providing and engaging, a broad and balanced curriculum that maintains a STEM focus and develops the skills of creativity, problem solving and investigation whilst promoting a healthy and active lifestyle. The development of effective partnerships and collaboration for the benefit and wellbeing of our community community.

## VALUES

ASPIRE is essential to everything that we do at Paxman Academy and underpins our day-to-day school life. It reflects how we expect every member of our community to conduct themselves and is central within our rewards and sanctions policies.

- Aspiration
- Success
- Perseverance
- Integrity
- Respect
- Empathy





## EXPECTATIONS

None of the above can be achieved without a fair, consistent approach, mutual respect and an acceptance of rules and procedures which are designed to maximise the benefits of school life for all members of the community. In a secondary school it is necessary for all students, parents, carers and staff to share an understanding that all students are expected to:

- Work hard to achieve their academic potential in class and through homework
- Respect others and themselves
- Attend regularly and be punctual
- Wear uniform correctly
- Be properly equipped for all lessons
- Take advantage of opportunities available to them
- Approach any teacher or Head of Year with any concern that they may have.

Teachers are expected to:

- Treat students with the respect that they deserve
- Have high expectations of students and encourage them to have high expectations of themselves
- Maintain commitment to their professional development
- Encourage students to participate in the extra-curricular life of the school

## TEACHING AND LEARNING

We are committed to providing the best learning opportunities for our students. We believe that effective learning is derived from high quality teaching with high expectations, which inspire, motivate and challenge students. This is achieved by regular review and reflection of classroom practice so that teachers are able to develop as professionals and meet the needs of a changing world.

# CURRICULUM

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum at Paxman Academy. We provide opportunities to build upon students' primary school studies, but also believe that students have an entitlement to new experiences that will develop them physically, emotionally, linguistically, culturally and academically to ensure that they develop and enhance skills for their future learning and for life in the UK.

Our curriculum is designed to challenge and stretch students; there is a broad curriculum including English, Mathematics, Science, Computing, Geography, History, French, and Spanish. Time is also given to develop creativity and flair in other areas, such as Art, Music, Sport, Drama and Technology.

Underpinning all of this there is an emphasis on the development of communication, reasoning and problem solving skills to support our STEM focus and to prepare students for life beyond school.

Alongside this encompassing curriculum, an extensive range of enrichment activities are planned such as trips and visits as well as visitors to the Academy. These will aim to increase the amount of cultural capital that students will gain, whether related to the curriculum or developing students' knowledge to enable them to become successful adults. We will further cultivate this through our Opening Minds curriculum that allows our students to learn about the world around them.

High expectations run through all areas of the curriculum. In all year groups, careers guidance gives students independent advice for their future aspirations, which is strengthened by regular visits from professionals and organisations.

Well qualified and dedicated staff convey a passion for their subject and a desire for students to succeed. Through rigorous and targeted assessments, students will progress through their curriculum, developing independence and resilience.

Weekly assemblies are held to allow students to reflect on life in 21st Century Britain and to further understand the British values of; democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, respect and tolerance.

Daily Opening Minds sessions enable staff to deliver an effective and extensive programme of PSHE. Citizenship and Beliefs, Philosophy & Ethics lessons also build upon this programme, leading our students to become informed, responsible young adults when they leave Paxman Academy.



# CHARACTER EDUCATION

We place a great deal of importance on the development of character amongst our students. We use character education as a conduit through which we instill our ASPIRE virtues and this runs through the core of everything we do. At Key Stage three students have dedicated curriculum time to study the virtues associated with character development. Focusing on important life skills and challenging real life scenarios we aim to fully prepare our students for the rigorous demands of 21st century life.

Working closely with and supporting our local community runs centrally through our approach to character education. We give our students the opportunity to contribute to their community and have a positive impact outside the walls of the school.

Opportunities to develop character and embody our ASPIRE virtues can be found across all subjects taught at the school as well as in our approach to extra-curricular activities and student support.

## SEND

The Academy's policy on special educational needs follows the Department for Education Code of Practice (2015) on the identification and assessment of special educational needs.

Our curriculum policy states that each student should have access to a curriculum that is broad, balanced and meets their needs. The education of students with special needs is co-ordinated by the SENDCO and the Learning Support team.

All staff support students with SEND and high aspirations are set within pupil passports and planning meetings. The Learning Support team also liaise with outside agencies e.g. Educational Psychology Service and Social Care in order to provide best quality support.

## PASTORAL CARE

Paxman Academy seeks to provide a caring atmosphere within which each student can prosper. This depends on mutual respect, self-discipline and a willingness to work with others. The Academy places great emphasis on the traditional values of courtesy, tolerance and perseverance.

Form tutors are responsible for the welfare and personal support of their students and for monitoring their educational progress. This work is supported by the pastoral team and a Head of Year.





# EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Paxman Academy provides a range of extra-curricular activities including sport, cultural and recreational activities. Already we are beginning to develop a strong reputation for sport and the arts. These opportunities take place both during and after the school day.

Students are encouraged to develop existing skills and to discover new ones.

## LUNCHTIME CLUBS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Book Club Year 7	Pokemon Club	Book Club Year 9	Book Club Year 10	Dance Club - All years
Creative Writing Club	Book Club Year 8	Boys Basketball - Years 7 & 8	Art Club all years	Computing
Boys Basketball - Years 9 & 10	Badminton - Years 7 & 8		Girls Basketball - All Years	GCSE/CamNat Sports - Year 10
Piano skills - All years	Geography club - all years		Ukulele and Guitars - All years	

## AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Equity Club	GCSE Art Club	Boys Rugby - Yr 8	STAFF MEETINGS	Yr 9 Drama Club
Science Club	Textiles - fashion design	Boys Football - Yr 8		KS4 Drama Club
Yr 7 and 8 Drama Club	Boys Football - Yr 7	Girls Netball - Yr 9 & 10		
Girls Football - All Years	Girls Netball - Yr 7 & 8	E-Sports		
	English KS4 Revision Club	DT club - Yrs 8, 9 & 10		
	STEM Club	Voiceworks		

# THE SCHOOL DAY

REGISTRATION 08.35 – 09:00

PERIOD 1 09:00 – 10:00

PERIOD 2 10:00 – 11:00

BREAK 11:00 – 11:20

PERIOD 3 11:20 – 12:20

PERIOD 4 12:20 – 13:20

LUNCH 13:20 – 14:00

PERIOD 5 14:00 – 15:00



## CRITERIA FOR YEAR 7 ADMISSIONS 22-23

Where applications for admissions exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied in the order set out below:

- Looked after children and previously looked after children including those who have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted
- Children with a sibling attending the school who will still be on roll at the date of admission
- Children who reside within the Priority Admission Area.
- Children who attend the following schools: Gosbecks Primary School, Hamilton Primary School, Icení Academy, Montgomery Junior School, St Michael's Primary School and Nursery.

**OUR PLANNED ADMISSION NUMBER FOR THE 2022-2023 COHORT WILL BE 180.**



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**Paxman**  
**ACADEMY**

**Paxman Academy, Paxman Avenue, Colchester Essex CO2 9DQ**

**Telephone: 01206 671155**

**Email: [admin@paxmanacademy.org.uk](mailto:admin@paxmanacademy.org.uk)**

**Website: [www.paxmanacademy.org.uk](http://www.paxmanacademy.org.uk)**