



MONKSEATON
HIGH SCHOOL

Prospectus 2019

“

The headteacher provides excellent leadership. She has created a school in which the core values of equality, inclusion, opportunity and achievement flourish”

Ofsted 2016

“

Pupils show highly positive attitudes and an enthusiasm for learning”

Ofsted 2016



Our Vision

To create a **confident, inclusive, collaborative learning community** where high quality teaching and learning, honesty and respect for others, drive the collective will to bring out the best in every child in our care.

All students at Monkseaton High School can expect to be:

- Valued for their achievements
- Actively involved in learning
- Educated in a safe and friendly environment
- Respected for their personal qualities
- Encouraged to play a meaningful part in the school and wider community
- Treated fairly by all
- Encouraged to stay healthy
- Given regular feedback and support

“

The school's caring culture, strong relationships and promotion of the values of tolerance and respect run through everything that happens”

Ofsted 2016



On behalf of our students, staff and the governing body I would like to thank you for taking the time to look at our prospectus and for considering our school. It is a great honour and privilege for me to do so, as I am incredibly proud to be a part of the school community of Monkseaton High School. It is my view that the best schools are those that ensure the young people within them are happy, safe and can flourish and strive to be the best they can possibly be and I believe we do exactly that.

We are a happy school, our students enjoy their learning and staff enjoy working with them. Our success is built on the foundation of strong relationships and an ethos of support that underpins all that we do. Individuals are encouraged to flourish and ambition and aspiration are developed alongside self-confidence and positive self-esteem. We believe it is important to develop confident and considerate individuals who are aware of their role within the wider community and beyond. A community of young people who are reflective of their actions and are considerate of others irrespective of background, culture or viewpoint.

We pride ourselves on a number of distinctive features, we are a smaller than the average sized secondary school and this allows us to offer a truly inclusive ethos where the contribution of individual students is recognized, valued and celebrated. Class and tutor groups are deliberately kept small, which allows staff to support students through their studies, their personal and social development and their extra-curricular activities. More importantly it allows us to get to know each and every student as an individual, and as such, provide bespoke and personalised support to enable them to develop as happy and healthy young people.

We are very proud of our safe, purposeful and friendly working environment that provides the foundation for all our young people to thrive, not only as part of our community but as an individual. Our aim is that all students leave school equipped for the opportunities and challenges of the fast changing world, whether that be within further education or within the workplace in modern Britain and beyond. Our examination results are testimony to the commitment and care staff here provide to enable all our young people to meet their personal targets and achieve their goals.

Over recent years we have seen our students achieve some of our best ever results and in August 2018 we continued to see our students make excellent progress and all post 16 students move on to their chosen destination, many of whom took up university places and scholarships in the USA.

We were delighted with the outcomes for our students and even more so for the fact that once again all groups of students achieved, irrespective of starting points. Over recent years, the progress our students make has been above average and significantly so in some measures. When compared to similar schools, this places us significantly above average. However, it is absolutely not about the data for us, it is about ensuring that every single student is given the opportunity, the confidence and the inspiration to achieve their absolute best. By delivering on our ethos of and core values of ensuring Equality, Opportunity, Inclusion and Achievement for all, we have once again gone a long way to achieving this. We are proud of the personal efforts and commitment from the individual students and our dedicated

staff who pave the way, but more importantly, guide them step by step, instilling confidence and the drive to succeed.

As you can imagine we are very proud of these outcomes and are delighted that our young people are achieving their potential and receiving the recognition they deserve, regardless of starting points or any challenges they may have faced. Also proving that Monkseaton High School provides young people with an excellent education and prepares them to succeed in life beyond school. This was confirmed in February 2016 when we were judged to be an outstanding school by Ofsted and are one of only a few schools in the country that has improved so rapidly under the new and rigorous inspection framework.

We have worked hard to ensure our young people get the best education possible and we were delighted with the recognition of our brilliant school. It is testimony to the dedication, commitment and achievements of all of the staff, governors and young people and the support we receive from parents and carers that we have been judged to be outstanding.

We are fortunate that our building and facilities are state of the art, but inside, our approach is very much built on the foundation of our values; equality, opportunity, inclusion, achievement. We are a school family, where every child matters and achieves to their maximum potential, but is nurtured and supported to enjoy their learning experience. The outcomes of our students has once again proven that our ethos and approach to developing confident, well rounded and happy young people has paid off, enabling them to thrive and achieve.

Tracy Crowder
Headteacher

Our School

Our school enjoys excellent, purpose-built, state of the art facilities including a superb gym, three sports halls, a vast school playing field and modern, spacious science facilities.

The Music Department is fully equipped with instruments and has rehearsal rooms for students to practise, as well as a sound proof recording studio. The Art Department has three studios, a dark room and a kiln room. Design and Technology house up to date machinery to allow practical experiences across a wide range of disciplines. The school is rich in Information and Communications Technology, which allows all students the opportunity to develop personal ICT skills and to use these in a range of subjects across the curriculum to develop their learning further.



“The facilities at school are outstanding, they help me learn and keep me busy throughout the day”

Student



Student Council

The School Council is a **great opportunity for students** to get involved in the running of the school. It is made up of representatives from each year group.

These representatives are elected in September by the students and act as their official voice. The Council discusses and decides on things that matter to them and their peers, and are important for the whole school. We believe that it is crucial for students to have a platform for voicing their opinions and suggestions, and for all to be involved in developing their wider school experience. One of our School Council representatives, Kieran Archer, was previously elected as the borough's Young Mayor in 2016.

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Learners play an active role in leading the school council and contribute significantly to charitable fundraising ”

Ofsted 2016



Curriculum

At Monkseaton High School we provide **a broad and balanced curriculum** that inspires students to learn.

A wide variety of teaching and learning strategies are used to engage all students in lessons and help promote independent learning. We operate a 2-week timetable with 48 lessons per fortnight to maximise the curriculum time within each subject area. There is a particular emphasis on literacy and numeracy across the curriculum and the use of ICT in all subjects is used as a tool for effective learning. The curriculum has been designed to ensure it caters for the individual needs of all our students as well as being tailored for each individual year group. This is reflected in the progress and attainment of our students, which we are incredibly proud of. This is testimony to the hard work of staff, students and parents and a broad curriculum that suits the needs of our students and school community.

Homework is set regularly and is used to encourage students to extend their knowledge and understanding outside of the classroom. Students are assessed regularly in every subject and a Progress Report is collated and sent home at the end of every term throughout the year.

Year 9

Students at Monkseaton High School study a wide and varied curriculum during year nine, which is viewed upon as a foundation year, and aims to ensure our pupils are prepared for their GCSE courses. Our ultimate goal is to develop them into confident and successful learners both by developing their attitude to learning and learning habits alongside their knowledge and thinking skills enabling them to succeed in their exams.

All students study the National Curriculum subjects, which are: English, Maths, Science, ML (French or Spanish), Technology, ICT, Art, History, Geography, PE, Music and I Learning (which includes elements of RE and Citizenship).

“ The school’s curriculum is well balanced to meet the needs and interests of pupils

Ofsted 2016

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Year 10 & 11

The curriculum we offer provides an appropriate balance between 'traditional academic' subjects and vocational pathways to meet the needs of individual students. We firmly believe that students will be successful if they access the right course based on their interest and abilities; and are committed to personalised learning pathways to enable all our young people to achieve. All students study GCSE English and Maths and extra support or intervention is provided in these subjects when required. Science is compulsory and is worth the equivalent to two GCSEs. All students study GCSE English Literature as part of their English course. PE is compulsory for all. The following courses are currently offered as options, though the curriculum offer is reviewed annually and amended to suit the needs of the cohort and individuals: GCSE: Art, Business Studies, Catering, Engineering, French, Geography, History, ICT, Music, Performing Arts, Photography, PE, Spanish, and BTEC Health and Social Care.

Students must choose four options with at least one of them being History, Geography, French or Spanish and another three from the subjects above. Members of the Senior Leadership Team will discuss the options with students, providing advice and guidance during the process.

During Year Eleven, members of the Senior Leadership and Pastoral team will provide information, advice and guidance at set points to offer an insight into Sixth Form. Sixth Form taster days are also offered to students so that they may choose a right pathway.



Year 12 & 13

Monkseaton's Sixth Form is open to students from other schools, as well as our own students. We pride ourselves on having a small Sixth Form, where individuality is nurtured and valued in an inclusive environment. We have a dedicated, modern Sixth Form study area with excellent ICT and computer access. We offer different pathways to meet the individual interests and abilities of our learners. There are many A Level and BTEC Level Three courses, as well as one-year options leading to these courses. All courses demand an entry requirement. We offer the opportunity for students to re-sit English and Maths at GCSE, with further work experience opportunities available in the summer term. These are covered in more detail in our Post Sixteen Prospectus.



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We are one
big family”
Student

Enrichment

We are **committed** to **developing** all round individuals. You will find that we provide a range of **enrichment opportunities**.

These include sports, activities, field trips and cultural visits at home or abroad. There are a wide variety of sports and other clubs available across all years. Field trips, visits and other extra-curricular activities enrich learning, engage students and bring relevance across the curriculum in all years.

Included in the many enrichment opportunities across all subjects are:

- Maths challenges for all year groups
- Enquiry-based learning in science, including field trips and other educational visits
- Peripatetic music tuition delivered in collaboration with the LA Music Service
- Language visits including the opportunities to travel to France and Spain
- PE Department enter competitions against local schools

Students are taken off timetable for special events, such as:

- A Design and Technology event for all Year Nine; students have a whole day dedicated to team work/problem solving aimed at promoting engineering in education
- Enterprise Day
- Diversity Day
- Health Awareness Day
- E-safety events
- Visits to universities, colleges and work places
- Work experience
- Sports Day





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There are many well-planned enrichment opportunities for learners to develop wider experiences and leadership skills

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Ofsted 2016

STEM

STEM subjects open up a variety of career options so it is important to bring STEM subjects alive in their everyday contexts. In addition to integrating STEM skills into the curriculum we offer STEM experiences outside of the classroom. Our year 9 students have the opportunity to participate in the Leading Edge project where they work with a research academic from Newcastle University. The students gain hands-on experience in a researcher's laboratory and develop their communication and presentation skills. We also run many visits to local universities, local companies and science establishments such as The Centre for Life, Dove Marine and The Institute of Genetic Medicine.

Charging Policy

While all normal school activities are free of charge, a number of additional educational events are organised to enhance the curriculum and parents/carers may be asked to make a contribution towards the cost. Without such contributions, many worthwhile educational activities would not be possible. Parents and carers will be fully informed in advance of any costs involved for activities in which your sons/daughters participate. Typically, the money goes to meet expenses associated with educational trips, transport, residential visits, etc. We try very hard to keep the charging of such events to a minimum. Please refer to school website for a full copy of our policy.

Teaching and Learning

In order to ensure that all of our students, from year 9 to sixth form, make **as much progress as they can** during their time with us, teaching and learning is central to everything we do.

We have an established culture of sharing the best practice and teachers at Monkseaton know that they have a commitment from the school to support them in their professional development. Our most recent Ofsted report recognises this, stating "Teachers have high expectations, are enthusiastic and they enjoy teaching. The vast majority of lessons are engaging and capture pupils' interest. As a result, teaching leads to rapid progress over time."

Every Tuesday, staff participate in our Continuing Professional Development programme. Working on a cycle, our sessions ensure that staff have the opportunity to discuss ideas with colleagues on a range of pertinent issues and strategies. Delivered by staff, our training is interactive, challenging and engaging. During our Open Door weeks, all staff have the time to visit other lessons across the school to encourage discussion; this also enables experienced teachers to support those who have more recently joined the profession.

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The quality of teaching, learning
and assessment is outstanding”

Ofsted 2016

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Teachers have high expectations, are enthusiastic and they enjoy teaching. The vast majority of lessons are engaging and capture pupils' interest. As a result, teaching leads to rapid progress over time

Ofsted 2016

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The school's work to promote pupils' personal development and welfare is outstanding”

Ofsted 2016

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Fantastic, nurturing environment. Students are challenged, encouraged and supported”

Parent



Learning Support and Transition

Monkseaton High School strives to ensure it is a **caring, inclusive** high school where **individual needs are met through a holistic approach, creating a safe, nurturing environment.**

Monkseaton High School believes that pastoral care is at its most effective when there is a balance between support and challenge. The Learning Support Team, staff, learning mentors and external agencies work collaboratively to personalise support according to individual needs and to give students a high sense of morale.

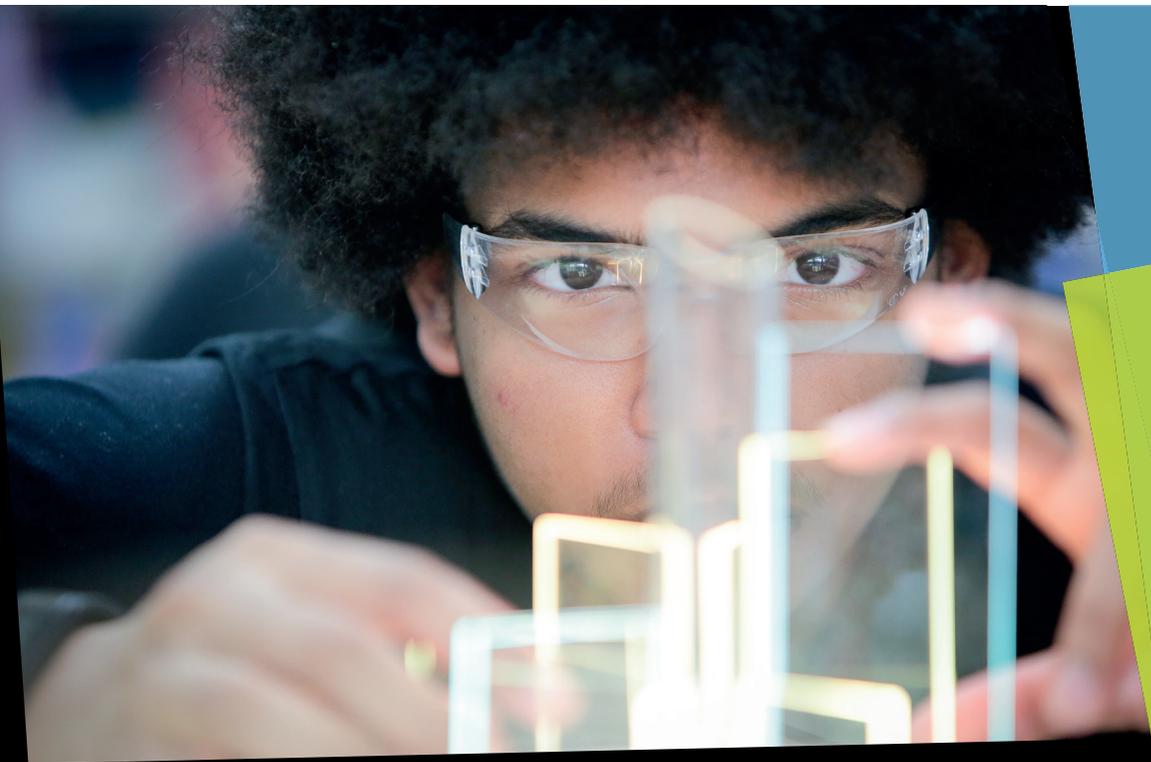
We believe that pastoral care should:

- Create a caring and secure environment conducive to lifelong learning
- Encourage a sense of belonging, pride and commitment to the school
- Encourage co-operation and teamwork
- Nurture relationships that are characterised by mutual respect and constant encouragement to develop self-esteem, self-discipline and responsibility
- Recognise the specific and changing needs of the individual
- Ensure effective communication and dialogue between all members of the school community, including parents
- Demonstrate positive interactions between staff and students and be exceptional role models

Making the move to high school can be a very anxious time for both children and their parents but here at Monkseaton we do our utmost to ensure that the transition is as straightforward and as enjoyable as possible.

We encourage prospective parents to attend our Open Evening in September, when you can get a feel for the school in action.

Throughout the year, we have opportunities for students and parents to familiarise themselves with the school. Staff will visit Middle Schools to teach lessons and deliver extra-curricular activities at various times of the year. In May, your child will be visited in their middle school by our Head of Year and other members of the transition team. All students attend two days in July, when they will meet their form tutor as well as build relationships with other students in their form class. Extra taster sessions are available for those who may find transition particularly difficult.



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Programmes are well designed and all learners progress to appropriate further education, employment or training ”

Ofsted 2016



Sixth Form

We are delighted that our Sixth Form **continues to go from strength to strength.**

This has most recently been reflected in our 100% pass rate. We achieve this by ensuring our students are supported and guided to make the right subject choices through a journey which begins in Year Ten and carries on until they leave Sixth Form. We invest a great deal of time in ensuring students access the right courses, are challenged to succeed and are aspirational in their goals.

Some of the formal opportunities include:

- The post sixteen courses evening
- Several individual guidance meetings with members of the Leadership or the Sixth Form team
- A 'Day in the Sixth Form', which presents an opportunity to shadow a current member of the Sixth Form with similar potential subject choices
- The chance to meet our Connexions Careers Advisor on request
- Regular information and guidance updates in assemblies and tutorials throughout the remainder of the year

All students are now required to remain in education, employment or training until the age of eighteen. It is therefore important that we make transition from Year Nine to the end of their education with us as smooth as possible. We live in an ever more competitive world in terms of jobs, apprenticeships and university places and it is therefore very important that you make best use of all the guidance and support available.

In our Sixth Form we pride ourselves on the following:

- Excellent teaching
- Pastoral support from a very expert and caring team of tutors
- Opportunities to develop your confidence and self-esteem through extension or extracurricular activities
- A skilful balance of support and challenge to ensure you fulfil your potential

Mrs Alison Thompson

Head of Sixth Form





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Pupils receive outstanding careers advice and guidance. All pupils receive a one-to-one interview with members of staff and an external careers adviser to support them at each transition point

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Ofsted 2016

Careers Advice and Guidance

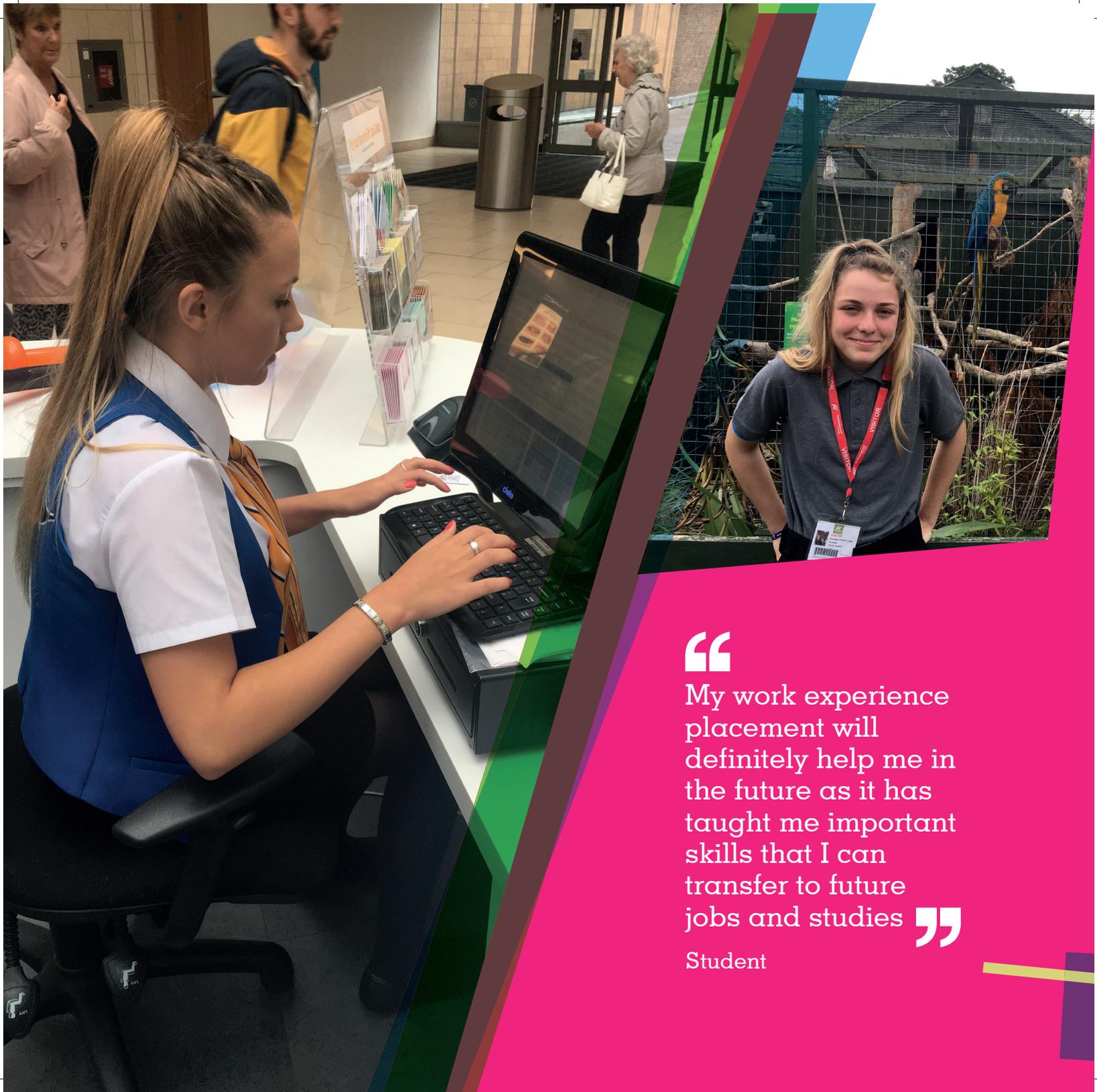
Careers education, advice and guidance form **major elements of the compulsory curriculum** for each student.

Delivered through our pastoral programme, we offer preparation for career choices, contact with the Connexions service, action planning and the use of computerised databases, as well as impartial guidance and support.

This programme contributes to each student's ability to make informed choices about options and Further Education. Each Year Eleven student will have a meeting with our senior leadership team and personalised Connexions Advisor.

A similar programme is available in Years Twelve and Thirteen. Guidance is also given within the tutor groups and prepares students for the choices they must make about Higher Education and future careers.

All students in school follow an enriching tutorial programme, which offers quality information, advice and guidance throughout the year. This includes whole year group assemblies, talks from guest speakers and time within tutorial to explore issues further. The tutorial programme also tackles the moral, social, political and spiritual aspects of sex education and economic issues of our time, helping our students to become informed on all contemporary areas reflected by their age group.



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My work experience placement will definitely help me in the future as it has taught me important skills that I can transfer to future jobs and studies ”

Student

Work Experience

Our students access quality non-qualification work experience in Years Ten and Twelve as part of their study programme. We believe **work experience is an important part** of the school curriculum. It helps students to learn more about the world of work.

Students gain a better understanding of opportunities at work and will undertake extra responsibility which will encourage more independence in their learning and way of life. They are challenged to develop aspects in their skill set such as initiative, resilience and time management outside their comfort zone. It also allows them to explore potential career paths.

Benefits to Students

- Students gain an appreciation of how to approach life in modern Britain positively.
- Young people are more likely to be successful in choosing a post sixteen option if they have had the benefit of some effective work experience.
- If students haven't yet made a decision regarding what career they want to follow, work experience is a perfect way for them to sample the career options available to them.

- Work experience allows students to gain a real appreciation of work in a chosen industry. They will be required to operate in a professional environment which will allow them to work with providers and ask questions about potential careers.
- Completing work experience allows students to demonstrate passion and interest in an area of their choice. Evidence that they have done work experience shows an employer that they are motivated to get into a chosen career and that they have taken the time to research their potential options.
- The preparation for work experience also involves students reflecting on their successes and failures to date, whilst providing them with a CV and personal letter for reference.

Many post-eighteen destinations require work experience as part of the entry requirement to the course. Examples include primary education, teaching, nursing and dentistry.

Celebration, Rewards and Achievement

We believe in the **value of praise and celebration of achievement**. This happens on a daily basis in lessons, with teachers praising and encouraging students.

In each lesson staff issue reward points which are kept electronically on each student's record. Three times a year the students who have achieved over a certain number of points can cash these in for a variety of rewards.

We hold an annual Awards Evening where each subject area will select a student to be celebrated for their progress as well as enthusiasm for the subject. There is also recognition for attendance and work ethic, while Pastoral Raising Achievement Leaders and the Headteacher have their own awards.

We regularly celebrate achievement in sports and the arts through our assemblies. In addition, we have a regularly updated display of students who have made excellent progress in each curriculum area.

At the end of Year 11 students are invited to attend the prom. The prom is a celebratory evening, which is one of the highlights of the school calendar. At the end of Year 13 students organise a leavers' meal with teachers to celebrate their efforts and achievements over their time with us. For the vast majority of students this is five years and the event provides an opportunity to say goodbye to all staff at Monkseaton High School where treasured relationships have been formed.

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Students are proud of their school and the very positive relationships they have with the staff ”

Ofsted 2016

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It is like one
big family.
Everyone knows
everyone, staff
and students
included ”

Student



Safeguarding and Attendance

We believe that safeguarding students is everyone's responsibility. In order for us to fulfil this role, **we work in partnership with parents, carers and other professionals** to ensure that together we secure the best possible outcomes for all students.

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The school's work to keep pupils safe is excellent. Staff are highly vigilant and ensure all pupils receive the individual care and support to help them thrive”
Ofsted 2016

Students can feel confident that our teaching and support staff will do their utmost to provide a safe environment in which they can access the help they need, including during times of personal difficulties. All our staff are appropriately trained in safeguarding and know when and how to share concerns about the welfare of students, and how to involve parents and carers in that process. We are very proactive in our safeguarding practice, enabling us to support students at the earliest opportunity.

Attendance

Good attendance is one of the keys to a happy and successful school career. We have a dedicated team of staff who work with children and their families to ensure good attendance of 95% or above. There is a direct link between attendance and how students achieve. It is important that students attend to achieve their potential.





Football Academy

Our **Men's and Women's** Football Academy in sixth form attracts students from all over the North East of England and is widely considered to be one of the best programmes of its kind in the country.

It is run alongside full-time A Level or BTEC academic courses and students get to train with top UEFA qualified coaches on a daily basis. Our training includes hours on the training pitch doing Tactical and Technical work, Video Analysis on performance and good practice, football specific gym programmes, Yoga and nutritional advice all around the Academic path you choose.

All students study post 16 academic programmes and also have the opportunity to gain certificates in sport related courses including the Community Sports Leaders Award and the Level 1 Football Coaching Award. Every year, players from the squad secure soccer scholarships to universities in the USA. Between 2014-2018 we have had 20 students accepted onto these scholarships at a variety of US colleges, which allows them combine studying for their degree whilst playing top level college soccer at the same time.

Monkseaton Football Academy is currently one of only three post 16 high school football programmes in the whole country to play at category 1 level within the English Colleges Football Association (ECFA), which is the highest level of college football in the country. We are also extremely proud of having reached an amazing 8 national school/college finals in the last 11 years!

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Those learners that join the sixth form through the football academy make good progress. Many of them go on to attain scholarships at universities in the United States and some progress to become professional footballers

Ofsted 2016

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Ofsted 2016

The leadership of teaching is a strength of the school. Teachers enjoy their work and are confident to take risks and to experiment to develop their practice further

Ofsted 2016

The governance of the school is outstanding

Ofsted 2016

Pupils mix happily and are respectful and considerate of one another at social times

Ofsted 2016

Teachers have high expectations, are enthusiastic and they enjoy teaching

Ofsted 2016

Leadership and management are outstanding. The headteacher and senior team have created a culture in which pupils and staff excel. Strong core values centred on equality of opportunity are universally shared across the staff

Ofsted 2016


Ofsted
Outstanding
Provider

The headteacher has been instrumental in fostering a positive culture, through her consistently high expectations and committed support for staff and pupils

Ofsted 2016

As a result of excellent training, teachers are highly skilled in ensuring the work they provide is tailored to challenge different levels of ability within each class

Ofsted 2016

The outstanding provision for pupils' social, moral, spiritual and cultural development is a strength of the school. The curriculum provides rich opportunities for pupils to debate and discuss topical issues and develop personal values

Ofsted 2016

Pupils make substantial and sustained progress across different subjects and year groups

Ofsted 2016

The quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding. Small class sizes ensure pupils receive a high degree of personal attention and detailed feedback on how to improve

Ofsted 2016



For more information please visit our website:

www.monkseaton.org.uk

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Shortlisted
Secondary school
of the year

National Support School
designated by

National College for
Teaching & Leadership

