



Small Heath
Leadership Academy

NURTURING TODAY'S YOUNG PEOPLE,
INSPIRING TOMORROW'S LEADERS

PROSPECTUS
2021/2022





Welcome from the **PRINCIPAL**



MRS E. AL-ANI
PRINCIPAL

A very warm welcome to Small Heath Leadership Academy, where we are dedicated to providing educational excellence for all of our pupils and committed to helping them to reach their full potential. Through our vision of "Nurturing today's young people, inspiring tomorrow's leaders," we aim to create an environment where all of our pupils can flourish and develop into confident and successful citizens.

At Small Heath, we provide high standards of education with a focus not only on academic achievements, but also on the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our pupils. Our Academy's STAR values of Service, Teamwork, Ambition and Respect are at the core of everything we do and are represented in the way staff and pupils model themselves.

We have a culture of high expectations and we continuously encourage our pupils to aspire to be the best they can be. This is developed through a strong and supportive system of pastoral care provided by a dedicated team of Pastoral Leaders and Form Tutors.

Our pupils benefit from an academic curriculum that enables them to achieve high standards and broaden their skills and experience through enrichment activities. We take a personalised approach, where pupils are set aspirational, but achievable targets through a curriculum pathway that meets their individual needs. We promote fundamental British values and develop pupils' understanding of rights and responsibilities in a diverse and democratic society where they can make a positive contribution.

Through effective leadership and efficient structures we provide a learning environment where our pupils flourish feeling safe, happy and supported. By working with all of our stakeholders and with the support of you as our parents, I believe that we can empower our pupils and make our Academy the beacon for our community.

Academy MISSION

To promote a culture of educational excellence, from within a caring and secure environment enriched with the values of discipline, mutual care and respect, which extends beyond the Academy into the wider community.

Our mission consists of three key elements:

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

A belief that everybody has the potential to succeed within a high quality and intellectually challenging educational environment.

A commitment to instilling high aspirations, a desire to learn and ambition to achieve.

A personalised approach to securing excellence, stemming from a passionate belief that each individual is unique and special and capable of rising above any perceived limitations.

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

A cohesive identity so that our pupils, their parents and communities feel a strong sense of belonging to the Star family.

A passionate focus on a values-based education that instils honesty, integrity, compassion and mutual respect into all our pupils.

A strong core of tenacity, self-respect and self-belief that inspires each pupil to become the best person they can be.

SERVICE TO COMMUNITIES

A determination to develop outstanding British citizens who are proud of, and contribute to, the social and economic prosperity of our country.

A sense of personal accountability and of responsibility to others.

A commitment to charitable endeavours and to making a difference to our world.

ACADEMY VALUES

Our STAR values are at the heart of everything we do.

S

SERVICE

Being a responsible citizen in our community

T

TEAMWORK

Working together for excellence

A

AMBITION

Aspiring to be our best

R

RESPECT

Treating others as we wish to be treated

ACADEMY PRIORITIES

Our three priorities are:

Keeping our pupils safe, happy and well

Achieving and sustaining excellence

Looking after our staff and community



Keeping our pupils

SAFE, HAPPY & WELL



SAFEGUARDING

Keeping young people safe is at the heart of our Academy's ethos and every member of staff has a responsibility to provide a safe environment in which pupils can learn and flourish. We have a wealth of safeguarding expertise amongst our staff and work alongside a range of external agencies, such as children's social care, to enhance our provision. The Academy has a Designated Safeguarding Lead (Child Protection Officer), as well as a team of staff who are well-versed in child protection. We complete thorough recruitment checks on all prospective staff and vet all speakers who visit the academy, and we have a comprehensive programme of training to ensure that staff are up to date in their knowledge of safeguarding. The Academy and Star have robust systems, policies and procedures in place to ensure that pupils are kept safe from harm within the Academy, and we also educate them about how to stay safe outside of the Academy, too; making them aware of issues that may affect their safety, welfare and/or academic success.

Our Wellbeing Programme teaches our pupils about the importance of building healthy relationships and how to stay safe in a variety of contexts, including being aware of the risks of sexual exploitation, radicalisation and the internet/social media. The programme gives our pupils opportunities to discuss, debate and understand how to actively keep themselves safe.

PASTORAL CARE

At Small Heath Leadership Academy, pupils are members of form groups led by a team of Form Tutors. Form Tutors remain with their Year Group to ensure consistency as pupils progress through the Academy, nurturing strong relationships with pupils and their families.

Each Year Group is overseen by a Pastoral Lead, who monitors pupils' progress and engagement with the Academy, and offers support as needed. Pastoral Leads work in conjunction with senior staff, whose job is to ensure that all of the pupils in their Year Group are benefitting from the highest standards of pastoral care.

The Pastoral Team is also supported by a Senior Leader designated to their Year Group. The Vice Principal (Behaviour) has overall responsibility for quality assuring and monitoring pastoral care.

We believe that all pupils must be enabled to feel safe in the Academy. We offer a full programme of activities during morning registration time aimed at personal and pastoral development, as well as an assembly programme with visiting speakers and advice on healthy living. In addition, our PSHE programme ensures our pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is catered for.

TRANSITION

We have a well-established programme designed to support Year 6 pupils in their transition from primary school to secondary school. We provide a number of taster sessions throughout the

year and work closely with our 'feeder' primary schools to ensure that Year 6 pupils are well-prepared for the challenges and opportunities presented by secondary education, so that they can make a confident beginning at Small Heath Leadership Academy. All Year 6 pupils who secure a place at the Academy attend an 'Induction Day' in the summer term. The induction gives pupils an opportunity to spend a day with their new form group, meet new friends and, most importantly, start to meet some of the teachers with whom they will be spending the next 5-7 years. We also offer a range of other introductory activities designed to support pupils as they make the move into Year 7.

ATTENDANCE

Research evidence and national statistics show that there is a high correlation between good attendance and achievement. This is why we expect the highest standards of attendance and punctuality at Small Heath. We encourage all pupils to work towards securing 100% attendance, with a target of at least 97% per year. Those pupils who secure excellent attendance throughout the term receive recognition at the end of term awards assembly.

BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

Every lesson is crucial to pupils' understanding and continued acquisition of subject knowledge, which is why we expect all pupils to arrive to their lessons on time, ready to learn. Having the right equipment with them every day is also essential.

Good behaviour for learning is one of the key elements of success and requires pupils to actively engage with each lesson; apply themselves conscientiously and complete their work on time. Pupils are expected to show respect and courtesy to their teachers and fellow learners. Pupils must also be willing to work well with others and show resilience when faced with any obstacles to their learning.

Small Heath staff set high expectations in order to raise aspirations and ensure that each pupil benefits from being part of an environment that is highly conducive to learning. We have a robust Behaviour Policy in place, which is available to view on our website, as well as a Code of Conduct,

which outlines the standards we expect our pupils to adhere to.

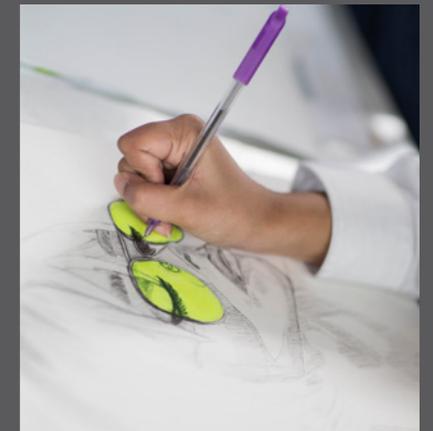
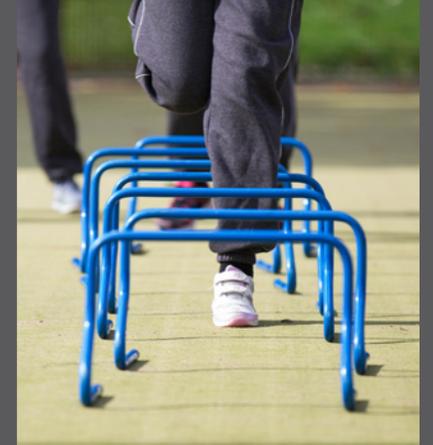
We do not tolerate bullying or discrimination in any form. Staff will respond promptly to any concerns and take appropriate action.

SPORTS

Sport is ingrained in Academy life. The range of clubs and sports we offer reflect the diverse talents of our pupils and ensure they all have the chance to take part in sports they enjoy and excel in. Popular clubs include: football, netball, cricket, rounders, athletics and gymnastics. We have a strong tradition of success with sporting activities across the local area and beyond. Our teams compete successfully in major competitions at all levels.

ARTS AND CULTURE

The Academy offers opportunities for creative self-expression and involvement at every level through the performing arts. Pupils can also express their creativity and hone their design skills through our Art curriculum as well as a range of technology subjects on offer.



Achieving & SUSTAINING

EXCELLENCE



TEACHING AND LEARNING

Our aim is to put teaching and learning at the heart of everything we do, providing a transformational educational experience to our pupils. Teachers are constantly encouraged to keep up-to-date with developments through continuous professional development, and teaching is regularly quality-assured to evaluate the impact on pupils' outcomes. We are committed to ensuring a happy, motivating and innovative learning environment, conducive to ensuring pupils' engagement and achievement. Our teaching and learning techniques also support pupils' independent learning skills and build their confidence to take on leadership roles.

CURRICULUM

We have created a broad and balanced curriculum in line with national guidelines and expectations. There is a strong focus nationally on the English Baccalaureate subjects and this is reflected in our curriculum. We encourage pupils to study the 'E-Bacc' subjects of English, Mathematics, Science, a Modern Foreign Language and a Humanities subject at GCSE. Qualifications in Religious Studies, Computer Science, Digital Applications, Art and Design, Citizenship, and Sport are also available.

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

We assess our pupils regularly and use this information to inform our planning. If data suggests a pupil is at risk of not achieving their potential, we plan a programme of intervention to support their progress. Each half-term, we send a report card to parents, informing them of their child's progress at the Academy. If a child is not making expected progress, we will ask their parents to come to the Academy every half-term to discuss progress and agree targets.

HOMEWORK AND INDEPENDENT LEARNING

Homework is set regularly to consolidate learning in the classroom and promote independent study. Pupils receive a planner to enable them to record and action any homework that has been issued.

EXAMINATION SUCCESS

We strive to achieve the best results for all our pupils. We tailor the curriculum to match our pupils' potential to ensure that every child has the opportunity to achieve the best GCSE results they possibly can.

SIXTH FORM

Small Heath Leadership Academy provides a vibrant, caring and supportive environment for Post 16 pupils.

Our focus on high levels of academic excellence, combined with an emphasis on character development and service to communities, ensures that all sixth form pupils leave with the best possible foundations for their future lives as high achieving and active leaders.

The Academy Sixth Form offers high standards of teaching and a constant pursuit of excellence. This includes weekly assessments, academic support tutorials and an extensive revision programme to deliver the best possible results.

LEADERSHIP

Our Leadership offer is designed to instil the three interdependent Star leadership virtues of Performance Leadership, Moral Leadership and Civic Leadership – virtues that together ensure our pupils not only 'do their best' but 'do the right thing' and play a full role in society.

We provide our pupils with a unique learning experience, which gives them the skills and confidence to take on leadership responsibilities.

Focusing on service, teamwork, ambition and respect, our Leadership initiatives promote maturity, commitment and teamwork and enable our pupils to experience what it is like to stand up and take the lead.

We promote leadership in the broadest sense – not limited to traditional public roles. We are committed to developing confident individuals who are leaders at home, amongst their peers and friendship groups, their community and, later on, in the workplace.

We offer many opportunities to enable our pupils to become outstanding leaders in aspects of Academy life and beyond.

LEADERSHIP - ENRICHMENT

We strongly believe that high quality extra-curricular activities enhance the learning experience beyond the curriculum and are an essential part of Academy life, and we pride ourselves on giving all of our pupils the opportunity to reach their full potential. For all our pupils, a comprehensive programme of enrichment opportunities are offered, aimed at developing key personal skills and aptitudes, along with our pupils' specific interests and talents.

In keeping with our belief that learning should not be confined to the four walls of a classroom, Small Heath offers a range of Academy outings and residential trips.

CAREERS INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Pupils are offered a comprehensive careers advice and guidance service at the Academy, enabling them to make informed choices about their future pathways. Visiting speakers offer a wealth of careers advice. We engage with local employers, universities and entrepreneurs to deliver learning, facilitate work placements, promote professions and impart careers advice to our pupils.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

It is very important that pupils with special educational needs are properly identified, assessed and supported and that the support is tailored to each child's particular needs. In deciding what those needs are and how we can support the pupil to overcome any 'barriers to learning' arising from those needs, we will work closely with the pupil and their family. This 3-way partnership underpins all our work and is essential in making sure that all pupils make the best possible progress.

We have excellent relationships with the Local Authority and external agencies to maximise the support we can provide. Our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator is a member of the Star SENCO Network established to ensure that the needs of all pupils are met.

Looking after our STAFF & COMMUNITY



THE PARENT PARTNERSHIP FORUM

The Parent Partnership Forum was established to bring together parents, teachers and the local community. The Forum enables parents and carers to play an active role in the life of the Academy and for them to express their views on their child's learning and overall health and wellbeing. Parents and carers come together, share ideas and put their views forward. The Forum aims to organise activities and events that are designed to raise funds for the Academy and develop a greater sense of community.

SUPPORTING OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

It is one of the Academy's driving principles that our activities and endeavours should serve to enhance and enrich our local community. Our Leadership specialism emphasises the importance of civic responsibility, charity and social action and we have a well-developed community programme aimed at building and

promoting positive relationships between pupils, parents and our wider community. We regularly reward pupils for their commitment to helping others and encourage them to contribute to a range of charitable causes. All learners at Small Heath complete community service projects as part of the Academy's curriculum.

LOCAL GOVERNING BODY

All Star schools are governed by Star Academies Board of Trustees and supported by Star Central Team. Much of the work of the Board is delegated to a school Local Governing Body. The Local Governing Body oversees the operational aspects of the Academy, ensuring it makes sound decisions, fulfils its legal obligations, and puts into place Star policies and systems that enable the Academy to flourish. It ensures that our pupils are safe, happy and well and holds the Academy to account for upholding its STAR values: Service, Teamwork, Ambition and Respect.



There are
240
Year 7 places
available

Our ACADEMY

SITE AND FACILITIES

Small Heath Leadership Academy is a single site. Our facilities include:

- > State-of-the-art classrooms and the best of modern technology
- > A large variety of specialised learning spaces
- > Excellent PE and sports facilities
- > Canteen
- > Fully-equipped science laboratories

These facilities help to provide for a challenging, high quality experience.

UNIFORM

Pupils are proud to wear the Academy uniform and demonstrate this by their conduct in and outside of the Academy. The uniform is smart and reflects our aspirations for our pupils to become both business and community leaders.

CATERING AND LUNCH ARRANGEMENTS

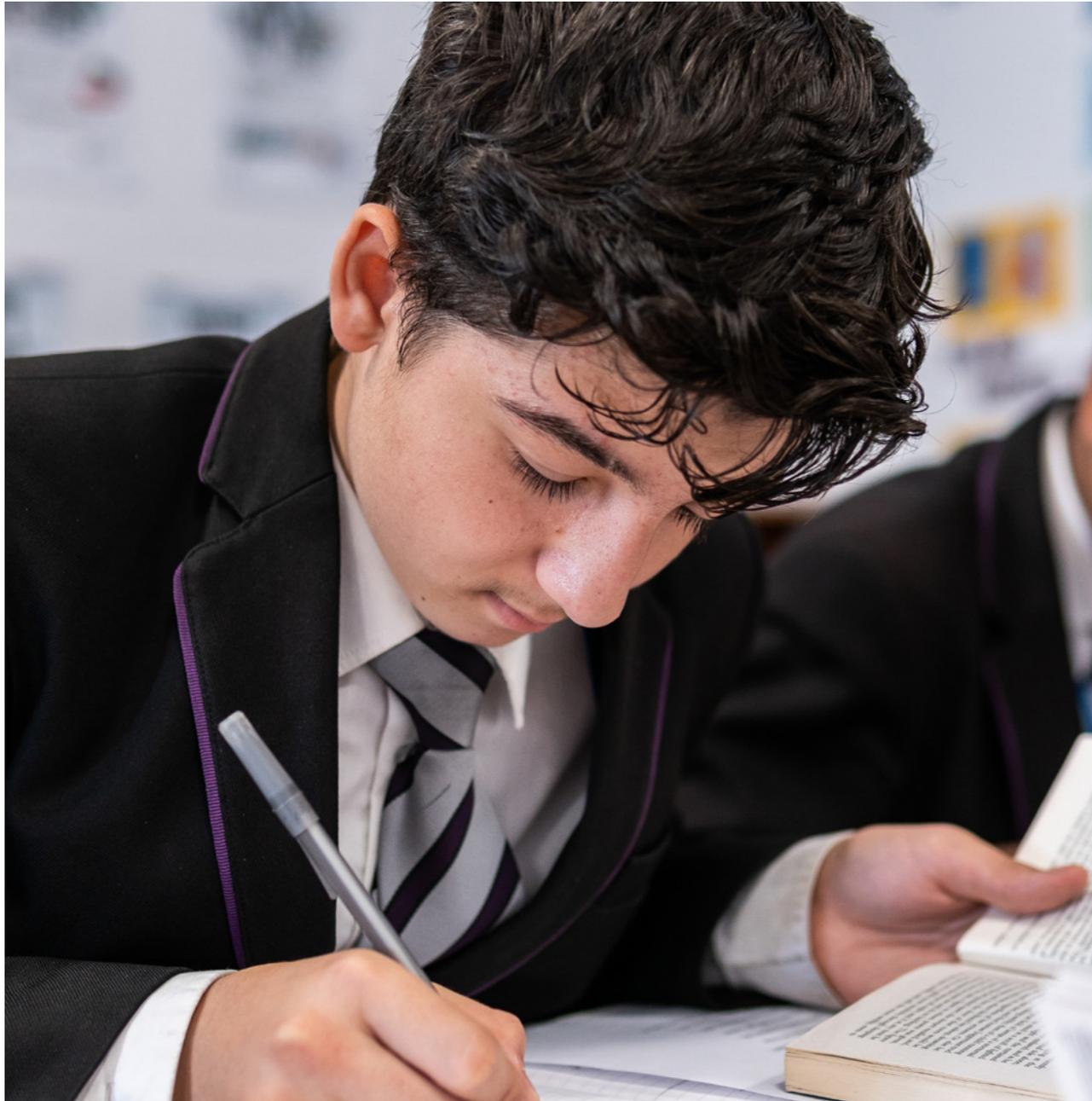
Small Heath Leadership Academy's catering service provides a varied selection of appetising school meals, all of which meet national nutritional standards. By providing our pupils with access to a healthy, balanced diet, we encourage them to develop sensible eating habits and give them the fuel they need to remain attentive and focused in class.

ADMISSIONS

Small Heath Leadership Academy is part of Star Academies. As an 11-18 progressive and inclusive community academy, the Academy will consider all applications equally. Small Heath has a history of being fully subscribed in Year 7.

There are 240 Year 7 places available.

We would strongly encourage those who are interested in securing a place at Small Heath to attend one of our open events with their child. These are held in September/October each year. Families applying should name Small Heath Leadership Academy on their council's Common Application Form. Full details can be found on our website.



STAR ACADEMIES

Star Academies is a mixed Multi-Academy Trust that runs a diverse network of primary and secondary schools. We are a values-based organisation, committed to enhancing social mobility. All our efforts are geared towards raising the aspirations of children and young people in areas of social and economic deprivation to improve their life chances and help them succeed at the highest levels of education, employment and the professions.

Star Academies is one of the country's leading education providers, and our schools promote excellence in everything they do. In every school, the entire staff team – working in partnership with parents and the local community – is committed to nurturing today's young people and inspiring tomorrow's leaders.

Our schools work together as Star Partnerships in five cluster areas – Lancashire, Greater Manchester, West Yorkshire, the Midlands and London. Schools within the Partnerships collaborate to share expertise and maximise opportunities and experiences for our pupils.

Star Academies employs the very best staff and invests heavily in their continuing professional development. Staff benefit from an extensive range of nationally accredited training provided by Star Institute.



Star

A message from the

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Deciding which secondary school to send your child to is a critical - and sometimes daunting - decision, but I hope this prospectus has provided you with all the information you need to make an informed decision about your child's education, as well as showcasing the breadth of our educational offer, our state-of-the-art facilities and the wealth of extra-curricular activities our pupils are able to enjoy.

At Star Academies, it is our mission to create outstanding schools that deliver the very best education to young people.

Our culture is one of aspiration and high expectations. The whole of the Star community - pupils, parents, staff, the governors and partners - are united in a pursuit of excellence and a shared ambition to ensure every child has the opportunity to go as far as their talent and their hard work will allow.

We are a values-based organisation, driven by a sense of greater social purpose. Our vision of 'nurturing today's young people and inspiring tomorrow's leaders' is at the heart of our education model. We passionately believe that schools have a transformational impact on society and have seen the difference that a rounded, high quality educational experience can make to individuals and communities.

Thank you for considering Small Heath Leadership Academy.

HAMID PATEL CBE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE STAR ACADEMIES





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Part of Star