

An Ashmole Academy Trust School
Excellence is a Habit

PROSPECTUS





“The head teacher’s visionary and incisive leadership of the school has resulted in excellent standards. He is ably supported by an effective and enthusiastic leadership team.”

OFSTED REPORT



An Ashmole Academy Trust School

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CEO

Mr D Brown MA, MBA, DipEd

ASSOCIATE HEAD TEACHER

Mr T Sullivan

DEPUTY HEAD TEACHERS

Mr B Dhinsa

Deputy Head: Educational Standards

Miss J Hart

Deputy Head: Outstanding Teaching and Learning

Dr T Mann

Deputy Head: Student Services

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Mrs G Daniels

Ashmole Academy is a No Smoking Site.

The information contained in this Prospectus was correct at the time of publication. The school reserves the right to make changes in the best interest of maintaining high standards.

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Ashmole Academy. I trust that our prospectus will help you make a decision about this vital stage in your child’s education.

Ashmole is a high performing 11-19 mixed school that seeks to provide the highest quality of education and the highest standard of academic success for its students. We have around 1500 students on roll and a Sixth Form of around 380 students. We place emphasis on all areas of the curriculum being highly successful. However, within that, we seek to stress extracurricular Music and at Sixth Form level, Science and Maths as particular aspects of the school’s provision.

At Ashmole Academy, young people are valued. We regard academic success as vital and work very hard to ensure that all students fulfil their true potential. We have very high expectations from all our students. Ashmole Academy is also a caring school. We create an environment of tolerance and respect where aspirations and responsibilities of individuals are emphasised. We expect students to show care and respect for others.

Close co-operation between the home and school is essential if our young people are to gain the maximum benefit from their schooling. The school’s strong pastoral support system enables us to develop effective home-school relationships that are beneficial to the student concerned.

Education is about preparing young people for their future. Our students leave school to go to university or college, to start a career in their chosen field of employment. To assist in the

preparation for that future, the school has an extensive Sixth Form provision covering a wide range of courses, career facilities and a well proven system for helping our young people with their university applications. We also have a dedicated Able, Gifted and Talented team to ensure that aspirational Oxbridge students or those wishing to pursue a career in medicine for example, are highly successful in their ambition.

Ashmole is a forward looking school, keen to strive for further improvements in the quality of education we provide. We recognise that the quality of facilities can help students excel. We therefore have the very best in terms of accommodation and resources providing superb opportunities for the students to increase their enjoyment of school life, as well as having the latest teaching opportunities. In 2014, the new Sixth Form Centre, with a Starbucks Café, a social learning area and a high tech study centre suitable for e-learning was opened.

I thank you for considering Ashmole for your child and will look forward to meeting those of you who choose to come to Ashmole Academy next September.

Derrick Brown | CEO/Head Teacher



Admission Criteria

(Please note, full details of the Admission Policy can be found on our website)

Introduction

Ashmole Academy ("the Academy") is a secondary academy with a sixth form located in the London Borough of Barnet. This is part of Ashmole Academy Trust Ltd, a multi academy trust ("the Trust") which also runs Ashmole Primary School, on the same site as the Academy. The Trust is the "admission authority" for the Academy and therefore responsible for determining and implementing the admission arrangements for the Academy each year in accordance with the School Admissions Code 2014 ("the Code") and other legislation. The Trust delegates this responsibility to the Local Governing Body of the Academy ("the Governing Body").

This Admission Policy applies to admission to Years 7 to 11 at the Academy. There is a separate Admission Policy for Years 12 to 13 (the sixth form); please see the website for details.

Equality and Inclusion

The Academy is fully inclusive and welcomes applications for the admission of children of all abilities and needs, including those with special educational needs and disabilities. The Academy fully complies with its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010.

Published Admission Number ("PAN")

The published admission number ("PAN") for Year 7 at the Academy is 261 pupils. Of these, 20 places will be allocated to children with an aptitude for music.

Aptitude Places

Up to 20 places of the 261 available places in Year 7 will be allocated to children who show an aptitude for music, namely those who have demonstrated potential to develop musical skill and who will benefit from the music related facilities of the Academy. No previous knowledge or experience of musical practice or theory is necessary.

Children for whom an aptitude place is sought will be invited to attend a written musical aptitude test at the Academy. The test will take approximately forty minutes to complete, and will consist of approximately sixty questions relating to music, including pitch, rhythm, texture and melody.

Parents seeking an aptitude place for their child will be notified in advance of the date that the aptitude test will take place, and its venue.



Children who are unable to attend on the set date for a compelling unavoidable reason (for example, compulsory religious observance, medical or disability related reasons, or the loss of a close relative) will be offered one alternative date. Parents should notify the Academy of the reasons for the inability of their child to attend and the reasons for this as soon as possible, and provide supporting evidence where relevant. It will be for the Governing Body to decide whether it is satisfied that the reasons stated are compelling and that one other date should be offered. The Governing Body will make decisions fairly and consistently.

After the test has been taken, children who achieve a mark of at least 45 will be invited to attend an audition during which they will sing or perform a piece on a musical instrument of their choice. Children will be free to choose the piece they perform, which should last no longer than three minutes. Each child will be given their own appointment for their audition, which will not take place in front of any other children. Again, the purpose of the audition is not to assess the child's ability to sing or play the musical instrument, but rather to determine whether the child has the potential to learn or develop musical skills as a student of the Academy.

After all of the auditions have taken place, each child's aptitude for music will be graded in relation to their performance at the audition only, by the Academy's music teachers. In order to be eligible for an aptitude place, children must achieve a score of 23 or above. If more than twenty children achieve this score, places will be allocated to the twenty who have scored the highest. If less than twenty children achieve this score, the remaining aptitude places will be added to the number of regular places available (see below).

In order to apply for an aptitude place, parents must apply through e-admissions (eadmissions.org.uk) and submit it to the local authority on or before the application deadline in the usual way. Children who are unsuccessful in achieving an aptitude place will then be considered for a regular place with all other applicants (see below).

Regular Places

The remaining 241 places will be allocated to all other children whose parents have expressed a preference for the Academy in the Common Application Form, including those children who were unsuccessful in achieving an aptitude place.

Where more applications are received than there are places available, the available places will be allocated in the following order of priority:

1. Looked After and Previously Looked After Children

Looked after and previously looked after children will be allocated places under this category by reference to the proximity of the child's home address (as defined by this policy) to the Academy, with those living nearer receiving higher priority.

A "looked after child" is a child in public care at the date on which the application is made. A "previously looked after child" is a child who was in public care, but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order immediately after being in public care.

To be included in this category, the application must be supported by the relevant Local Authority's Children's Services Department. In the case of a previously looked after child, a copy of the adoption or special guardianship order must also accompany the application for admission.

2. Children with a Sibling at Ashmole Academy or Ashmole Primary

Children who will have a sibling at Ashmole Academy or Ashmole Primary at the date of application will be allocated places under this category by reference to the proximity of the child's home address (as defined by this policy) to the Academy, with those living nearer receiving higher priority.

A "sibling" will include a full, half, step, adopted and foster brother or sister, as well as a child of a parent's partner with whom he or she has been cohabiting for a period of at least one year at the application deadline, and in all cases the sibling must be living at the child's home address (as defined by this policy) and being brought up within the same core family unit as a sibling to the applicant child. For the avoidance of doubt, a child of a friend or extended family member (for example, a cousin) living at the same address as the applicant child will not be a "sibling" for the purpose of this policy.

In order to apply under this category, parents must ensure that full details of the sibling are stated within the Common Application Form. Failure to do so will result in the child being placed into the next category that applies.

3. Children of Employees of Ashmole Academy Trust Ltd

Children with a parent who has been employed by Ashmole Academy Trust Ltd for a period of at least two years at the application deadline, whether based at Ashmole Academy, Ashmole Primary School, or who were recruited to fill a vacant post for which there was a demonstrable skill shortage, will be allocated places under

this category by reference to the proximity of the child's home address (as defined by this policy) to the Academy, with those living nearer receiving higher priority.

In order to apply under this category, the parent who is the employee of Ashmole Academy Trust Ltd must complete the Common Application Form and ensure that they confirm within it that they are an employee. Failure to do so will result in the child being placed into the next category that applies.

4. All Other Children

Children who do not fall into any of the categories above will be allocated places under this category by reference to the proximity of the child's home address (as defined by this policy) to the Academy, with those living nearer receiving higher priority.

Child's Home Address

The child's home address will be the address at which they live and sleep for more than 50% of their time from Monday to Friday during term time at the application deadline. It will usually be the address at which Child Benefit is claimed or, if ineligible, the address at which the child is registered with their G.P. and dentist. No other address (including a business address) will be accepted.

Where there is an issue over whether the home address stated by parents in the application for admission is the child's main home address as defined by this policy, parents may be required to provide documentary evidence to resolve the issue. This may include providing details of the times that the child has spent at the stated home address in the three month period immediately preceding the application deadline.

Distance Measuring

The distance between the child's home address (as defined by this policy) and the Academy will be measured in a straight line between the address point for the child's home, supplied by Ordnance Survey, to the school's main gate using the Council's computerised geographical information system.

In the case of buildings containing a number of different dwellings (i.e. an apartment block), the distance will be measured from the same point in the building regardless of where within the building the child's home address is actually located, with the tie breaker being applied as necessary.

Admission Appeals

Parents have a statutory right of appeal against the refusal of a place which will be heard before an independent panel. Full details about the statutory right of appeal, including how and when

Ashmole has completely surpassed any expectations I had in providing the very best of education. It is truly a fantastic school which supports the needs of all pupils in a caring and positive atmosphere."

PARENT

the request for an appeal must be lodged, will be confirmed in the notification letter sent to parents on National Offer Day.

A request for an admission appeal must be accompanied by the grounds for making the appeal (i.e. why it is believed that this Admission Policy does not comply with the School Admissions Code 2014 or other legislation, or was not correctly applied in relation to the application for admission). Before setting out the grounds of appeal, parents are advised to consider the reason for the refusal stated within the notification letter.

The Academy is required to publish an admission appeal timetable on its website on or before 28 February before National Offer Day.

Waiting Lists

The names of all children who are unsuccessful in achieving a place in Year 7 will be automatically added to the waiting list for Year 7 for the duration of the school year in which the child was admitted. After that date, all names will be removed unless the child's parents notify the Academy that they would like their child's name to be kept on the waiting list going forwards.

Where an application for in-year admission or admission to a year group other than Year 7 is unsuccessful, parents will be asked if they would like their child's name to be added to a waiting list for that year group and, if so, for how long. Waiting lists are not routinely kept for other year groups unless parents specifically ask for their child's name to be included on one.

The child's position on a waiting list will be ranked solely in accordance with the order of priority set out in this policy, and not in accordance with the date that the child's name was added to the waiting list. This means that the child's name may go up or down the waiting list, as the names of other children are added or removed.



Aims of the School

At Ashmole Academy, we aim to enable students to develop to their fullest potential in all areas of school in order to prepare them as far as is practicable to be responsible members of society. We create a friendly environment but insist on strict standards of behaviour and courtesy. We provide a school community which is rich in variety and diversity, where young people of both genders, of all abilities and from diverse cultural backgrounds work together to achieve their personal best.

To this end, whilst recognising the importance of the home and society in the learning process for students, we seek to:

- Maximise achievement by ensuring that every student achieves their very best in terms of

academic success, personal development, creative expression and sporting achievements

- Provide a school fit for the 21st Century by equipping each and every student with the skills and knowledge to become a full citizen in the 21st Century through work, leisure, community involvement and lifelong learning.
- Develop civic responsibility and community involvement by providing a safe and caring school for students to grow and develop, in a community that promotes learning as a partnership between teachers, parents, students and the community as a whole.
- Provide a scientifically rich learning environment.

Values Education

At Ashmole every individual is valued for who they are and what they contribute to the school. Values Education supports the personal and social development of every pupil through the school. The Ashmole values are Endeavour, Reflection, Professionalism, Responsibility, Respect and Co-operation.

Aims of Values Education

Through the Values Education Programme we aim to:

- improve behaviour, conduct and self-confidence by developing strong values within the pupils at the school;
- develop students' understanding of what values are and why they are important in life;
- encourage children to 'live the values' in all

aspects of their lives both in school and out;

- promote values to students in every aspect of school life;
- promote values in the way in which adults interact with each other and with students;
- enable children to focus upon the positive aspects of themselves that they can value, thereby reminding them of their individual worth, their worth in the school and wider communities and the worth of those communities themselves;
- to raise standards by promoting a school ethos that is underpinned by core values which support the development of the whole child as a reflective learner within a calm, caring, happy and purposeful atmosphere.

The care, guidance and support for students throughout the school are outstanding."

OFSTED REPORT

Behaviour and Discipline

An aim of the school is to create a friendly environment while insisting on strict standards of behaviour and courtesy. The ethos of the school is founded on the quality of relationships between all who work and learn here. Such relationships are characterised by mutual respect, consideration and common courtesy, irrespective of position, gender, race, disability or culture. We all value the positive atmosphere generated at Ashmole Academy.

We aim to treat each person as an individual and expect each person to achieve high standards, displaying honesty, integrity and politeness in all situations. The school has a uniform and appearance code and requires students to arrive at school fully prepared for work.

Through good models of adult behaviour, consistent approaches in dealing with students and constant encouragement to develop self esteem, we aim to engender self-discipline and autonomous adherence to high standards by all. Our strong, efficient pastoral system supports the positive working attitudes in the school.

The Head Teacher and school staff implement behaviour and discipline practices which are made explicit to students in their school planners and through assemblies and tutorial programmes. The implementation of these practices will involve both sanctions and rewards. Rewards and sanctions will be implemented consistently whilst recognising that the Head Teacher must have regard to the individual situation and the individual student. The Head Teacher will use his professional judgment in the implementation of these practices.

The Governing Body has a firm policy against violence, being in possession of dangerous, offensive or illegal weapons, smoking, drugs, alcohol use and solvent abuse. The school openly condemns and will exclude, including permanent exclusion, for such offences. The school will take action against negative attitudes and values including bad manners, racism, sexism, bullying and anything that goes against the school's aims, code of conduct and rules.

Principles

At Ashmole Academy we believe that the following behaviour from adults and students will encourage an even higher standard of behaviour:

- Punctuality
- Clear, appropriate preparation for lessons
- Clear communication
- Clear guidance on the use of sanctions and praise
- Consistent use of praise and sanctions across all years
- Mutual respect and support
- Listening to and valuing the opinions of others.
- Opportunities for student involvement at all levels
- Adults setting high and appropriate standards in behaviour, dress and expectations

Around the School

- All members of the school community should treat one another with respect
- Punctuality from all is absolutely necessary
- Courtesy at all times is essential in corridors and at doors

Concerning Work

- Any work produced should always be the best effort possible
- All work produced whether in books, for display or for reference must be treated with respect

At Ashmole Academy we value

- Telling the truth
- Keeping promises
- Respecting the rights and property of others
- Acting considerately towards others
- Taking responsibility for one's actions
- Self discipline
- Our own skills and the skills of others and will actively encourage pupils who follow these principles
- Achieving or exceeding your personal best

We reject

- Bullying
- Cruelty/Violence
- Cheating/Deceit
- Defiance/Rudeness
- Disobedience/Irresponsibility
- Vandalism/Graffiti
- Prejudice and Discrimination including race, gender and disability
- Dishonesty/Theft
- Substance Misuse
- Illegal Activities
- Disruption of, or damage to, the learning of others
- We will take action against pupils who practise these behaviours including exclusion, particularly where serious breaches occur or misbehaviour is repeated.





"I am extremely pleased with the high level of teaching that my children have received at Ashmole Academy. The teachers have enabled my children to excel in every way which I feel has helped them develop a passion for learning"

PARENT

The School Curriculum

The curriculum is designed to meet the needs of students with a wide range of talents and abilities. It is designed to stretch the most able, to provide support for those needing additional help and to provide an education suitable for all students.

Years 7 and 8 – Key Stage 3

During Years 7 and 8 all students follow a broad and balanced curriculum, designed to be challenging and interesting, building upon the foundations from primary school.

Whilst we place much value on students reaching their full academic potential, we also aim to help students enjoy their learning and gain a solid basis for study at GCSE, A-Level and higher education.

All students are initially taught in mixed-ability groups when they start in Year 7. Teaching in ability groups is introduced later depending upon subject and need.

In addition, students receive a grounding in study skills, as well as regular access to computer and library facilities across all subject areas. All Key Stage 3 students will also be issued e-readers that

will be personalised for their ability.

Years 9, 10 and 11 – Key Stage 4

All students work towards GCSE examinations in Years 9, 10 and 11.

In addition, students follow a Personal, Social and Health Education programme, which includes careers education and citizenship.

The most able students at Science will study all three Sciences (Physics, Chemistry and Biology) giving a stronger basis for their advanced study. Able linguists are able to study two languages to GCSE.

At Key Stage 4, students choose to study a number of optional subjects.

Some students take GCSE and A-Level examinations in mother-tongue languages, as and when we are informed they have reached the required standards.

On entering Years 9, 10 and 11, students will have acquired many of the skills of independent

learning. We expect a high level of motivation, in pursuit of examination results.

Sixth Form

Students apply for a place in the Sixth Form in the November of their Year 11. Guidance meetings are conducted with every application.

The Academy provides an extensive range of courses in the Sixth Form. The choices cover over 20 A-Level subjects. The Academy provides dedicated Sixth Form facilities for students' use.

Students in the Sixth Form undertake community service and enrichment, including taking part in weekly PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) sessions, and are involved in supporting both the social and academic progress of younger students in the Academy.

Most of the Academy's sixth form students intend to go on to university. For those with ambition to apply to Oxford, Cambridge or other prestigious universities, the Academy provides additional opportunities for the student to practise the additional tests these universities require.



“Staff set consistently high expectations of achievement and students often exceed their targets.”

OFSTED REPORT



Able, Gifted and Talented

At Ashmole we intend to provide an education suitable for all students and where every child can make very good progress. That action includes provision for our highest performing students, often called able, gifted and talented. To ensure that these students make very good progress, we identify such students on the School Able, Gifted and Talented Register. Such students have all-round ability, across the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science and have developed to a level significantly ahead of their year group. Around 1 in 4 students at Ashmole Academy are identified as 'Able, Gifted and Talented'.

In an increasingly competitive world, it is important that we guide and support our able learners during their years at Ashmole so that their applications for higher education and employment are as enriched as possible. In response, we have created a bespoke programme for our 'Able, Gifted and Talented' students called the Ashmolean Programme. This programme varies through the years but the aim is always to extend their education and prepare them for the future.

The programme involves a variety of activities. 'Able, Gifted and Talented' students may have the opportunity to visit higher education institutions to encourage aspiration. In addition, students can extend their learning through Firefly – our virtual learning environment. The Ashmolean 'Room' has advice for parents/carers and forums for able students to air and debate their views. The main section is for extending their learning. There are suggestions for wider reading, visits to exhibitions and many tasks provided by subject areas. Our able students are mentored after attainment checks/examination results and we also have a lecture series for our sixth form students.

Classroom teachers plan for different students' needs through differentiated outcomes and activities. Departments recognise those that have strengths in their subject area and plan accordingly.

In addition to all round ability we have some students who are 'Talented' in particular subjects. These students will also be fully

supported to excel in their area of talent by the relevant departments.

Our Able, Gifted and Talented students are likely to follow a university career at prestigious institutions such as Oxford, Cambridge, LSE and other Russell Group Universities. The Academy fully supports students in their ambitions. The Academy also runs specialist programmes preparing exceptionally able, gifted and talented students for university, including specific training and advice programmes for Oxbridge entry, and for those wishing to study medicine and law. Our Medical Society meets weekly to prepare for applications and interviews. Teaching staff and individual mentors also advise on such matters. These programmes often start at Key Stage 4, at the time of GCSE option choices, through to Year 13.

The Academy has a team of specialist staff for able, gifted and talented students including an Able, Gifted and Talented Manager and Co-Ordinator.



Attendance

Regular and punctual attendance is required. In all cases of absence a letter from the student's parent or carer giving the dates of absence and reason should be brought by the student on returning to school. This should be handed by the student to the Form Tutor.

Parents/carers are asked to telephone the

school each day of their child's absence before 10am. If no such message is received, parents/carers will be sent a text message informing them that their child is not in school. On the child's return to school, they should bring a note from the parent/carers explaining the reason for absence. **The school will not authorise holidays in term time.**

Punctuality

Students arriving late for any reason must sign in before going to lessons. Frequent lateness is unacceptable; offenders will be required to make up lost time after school.

This system is very closely monitored by the Learning Mentors, Form Tutors and Assistant Head Teachers.

Extra Curricular Activities

Extra curricular activities take place both at lunchtimes and after school and it is very much hoped that parents will actively encourage their children to attend. Such participation is likely to add positively to self-esteem, academic progress and community involvement.

Activities on offer vary from year to year according to the interest of the students and staff. At present, annual curricular extension trips are arranged to France and a variety of other countries. Lecture visits and Field Trips are organised in conjunction with certain courses.

Regular clubs include "Mad for Books", Art, Maths, Music, Technology, Science, Athletics and Badminton. Daily practices and fixtures are open to all students in football, netball, cricket and basketball.

Weekly drama and singing workshops involve participation and rehearsal for annual performances.

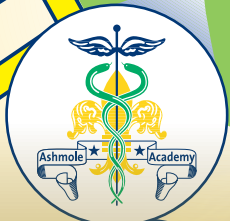
Opportunities are also provided for musical activities, ensembles and a variety of concerts and for participation in religious fellowships.

Further Information

If after reading this prospectus you would like the opportunity to seek further

clarification on any point, please contact the Admissions Co-ordinator.





“We regard academic success as vital and work very hard to ensure that all children fulfil their true potential. We have high expectations for all our students. We expect hard work from each person and are rarely let down.”

*Derrick Brown
CEO/Head Teacher*

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