

# SANDWELL ACADEMY





"Well above-average attendance, routine punctuality, impeccable conduct, and the respect students' show for others are a real asset to the academy."

Ofsted 2017



"The destination data of Year 11 students is above average. Almost all of them gain apprenticeships, places on training programmes or on further education courses."

Ofsted 2017



### A letter from the Head

Dear Students and Parents

It gives me great pleasure to share with you the fantastic opportunity that exists for local children at Sandwell Academy.

Sandwell Academy opened in 2006 and now educates over 1,200 students, recruiting 200 students each year into Year 7 and a Sixth Form of 350 students. Sandwell Academy is part of the Thomas Telford Multi Academy Trust (TTMAT), established in September 2017. The MAT currently consists of three secondary schools; Madeley Academy, Sandwell Academy and Walsall Academy. Sandwell Academy works closely with the schools within the MAT and Thomas Telford School.

Sandwell Academy is proud of its achievements, and is a school where students receive praise, support and challenge. We are relentless in our pursuit of high standards and excellent teaching. Students benefit from state of the art facilities and modern equipment in all areas, especially in Sport, Business and ICT.

In November 2011, January 2014 and again in May 2017 Ofsted graded the Academy as Outstanding. Students benefit from a broad curriculum, a flourishing extra-curricular programme, a safe and caring environment with high levels of pastoral support and an emphasis on traditional values of good behaviour, mutual respect and excellent attendance.

We expect great things from our students and a strong work ethic and motivation to succeed are vital. Teachers and parents are required to work together in partnership to ensure children make excellent progress.

If you are interested in finding out more, please come and visit us on one of our information evenings.

lan Williams Headteacher



"A strong safeguarding culture is evident in the academy and safeguarding issues are fully threaded through the curriculum."

の

H

Ofsted 2017















"It was like going to a West End Musical... we were so proud of her achievements. Thank you for giving my daughter such opportunities to excel."

The pastoral system underpins the Academy's pursuit of a bully-free school.

Presen

Develop



"The academy offers a wide range of enrichment activities, opportunities to complete homework and highly targeted intervention and support sessions at the end of the formal school day." Ofsted 2017







Our extra-curricular programme gives students opportunities to complement and extend their education.



The curriculum has been developed to inspire and motivate students. It fosters strong social cohesion and a dynamic 'can do' attitude.

Ofsted 2017

# What we are about



#### Aims

Sandwell Academy aims to offer every student the opportunity to do their very best. Students of all abilities are welcome at the Academy, where expectations for behaviour and attendance are high.

We strive to ensure that all our students are successful in their studies and are able to find a balance between teaching support and independent learning.

We seek to provide the highest quality learning and achievement for all students, ensuring that they develop as creative, responsible individuals, building on outstanding experiences in the classroom and during extra-curricular provision.

### What's special about us?

Sandwell Academy is an all-ability school with specialisms in Sport & Business Enterprise.



Our Mission Statement: To raise educational standards through effective practice and share this with the wider community.

### Enthusiasm

Our teachers provide a safe and secure environment in which learning, innovation, initiative and creativity thrive.

### Opportunity

We strive to provide every student with the opportunity, motivation and support which will enable them to achieve beyond their expectations - inside and outside the classroom.

### Planning for the future

We seek to prepare our students for life in its richest sense, so that each individual leaves the Academy as a happy, confident and independent young person.

### **Pastoral care**

Each child is unique and we treat them as such. The wellbeing of each member of our Academy community is paramount and each student is supported through our strong Pastoral care.

#### **Fulfilling potential**

We encourage our students to take full advantage of the fabulous experiences on offer at Sandwell Academy - within every child there is a spark which we aim to ignite.

#### **Special Educational Needs**

The Academy is a school that admits students from across the whole range of ability. Students with special needs and disabilities are offered maximum access to the curriculum through the focused use of ICT. The building has been designed to provide excellent access to facilities for disabled students.

Individualised support is provided for students with special requirements. This includes express groups for gifted and talented students.

# Excelling

### Excellence

Sandwell Academy is committed to excellence and offers a well-balanced and stimulating curriculum which is sufficiently flexible to respond to the varied needs of students of different ages, stages, aptitudes and abilities. We encourage all students to aim high and maximise their learning potential. This commitment to excellence is reflected in our outstanding examination results.

#### **Expectations**

Expectations for the students are high. Attendance and punctuality are expected to be excellent. Students are expected to have good manners and behaviour, responsibly conforming to school rules and dress code. Above all we create a safe, happy environment in which all students do their best.



### **Specialisms**

The distinctive combination of Sport and Business Enterprise supports the Academy in a determination to deliver a genuinely personalised curriculum for all and allows the Academy to impact on attainment at all levels.



### **Parents and Reporting**

Our review and target-setting system encourages students to assess their own progress and to set personal targets for continuous improvement. Good communication between home and school is fundamental to the Academy's success. We encourage parents, students and tutors to work together in order to maximise the potential of our students. We provide regular updates to parents through our website, emails, text messaging service, letters, telephone calls and our Module Reporting system. These links play an essential role in providing the optimum level of support for each of our students.

### **Extra-Curricular**

We are proud of the wealth of extra-curricular activities on offer to Sandwell Academy students. Whether you are interested in Sport, Music, Performing Arts, Reading, Art, Science, Gardening, or even working towards a Duke of Edinburgh award, you will find something to whet your appetite in our busy 'Session 3' schedule. Our superb facilities and highly committed staff provide the perfect foundation on which every student can build a path towards realising or exceeding their aspirations.





SANDWELL ACADEMY

FRIENDSHIP EQUALITY COURAGE RESPECT INSPIRATION EXCELLENCE DETERMINATION





### www.sandwellacademy.com

Sponsored by Thomas Telford Multi Academy Trust Thomas Telford Multi Academy Trust Registered Office: Thomas Telford School, Old Park, Telford, Shropshire, TF3 4NW Company Number: 04798185 (England)





### SANDWELL ACADEMY

"The school's curriculum, including its focus on careers education, advice and guidance, and strong industry links, provides a breadth of choice and opportunities for all."

Ofsted 2017

Following one of the most unusual and challenging years for our students, Year 11 and Year 13 students were awarded an outstanding set of grades in Summer 2020.

### GCSE

Sandwell Academy celebrated its tenth set of GCSE results in August 2020.

- 82% of all results were graded 9 4 across a range of subjects with 88% of students achieving a Grade 4 or higher in either English Literature or Language.
- 88% of students achieved 5 or more 9-4 GCSE qualifications, with every student achieving success in at least one Level 2 course combined with other vocational achievements.
- 43% of students achieved the English Baccalaureate benchmark by achieving Grade 4 or better in English, Mathematics, two Science subjects, Geography or History and a Modern Foreign Language.

### GCE

The Academy's Sixth Form students achieved another excellent set of A Level examination results this summer.

	<b>A*A</b>	A*B	A*C	A*D	A*E
%	42	57	90	95	100

Under new QCA tariffs this represents an average 113.14 points per student, the highest since the tariffs changed, with an average of 33.41 points per qualification.

Building on from their successes over 84% of our students have chosen to pursue Higher Education and have secured places at a university. Those who have not chosen this route have either taken up apprenticeships or employment.

Sandwell Academy offers a longer school day to allow students to take full advantage of our facilities.

### SANDWELL ACADEMY







### Academy Organisation

#### The Academy Day

Sandwell Academy offers a longer school day to allow students to take full advantage of the formal curriculum, spend extra time on a range of subjects including Physical Education and Business Enterprise and develop an understanding of industry and commerce.

#### **Facilities**

Our excellent facilities include:

- Electronic whiteboards in all rooms
- Library and Information Technology Centres
- Theatre with tiered seating
- Dance studio with sprung floor
- Sound recording studio
- Sports Hall
- Fitness Suite
- Floodlit 3G pitch and athletics track
- Floodlit playing fields
- Closed circuit TV
- Restaurant
- Training Kitchen

# Timings of the Academy Day

#### Monday to Friday

Session 1 (including 15 min. breakfast)	8.20 am	to	11.30 am
Personal Tutorial	11.35 am	to	11.50 am
Session 2 (including 40 min. lunch)	11.55 am	to	3.20 pm
Session 3	3.40 pm	to	5.10 pm

All students will be expected to attend at least one Session 3 per week.

To ensure their safety, students are not allowed to leave the Academy premises at break time.



There is a 10 session week for all students. The maximum class size is 25.

### SANDWELL ACADEMY



### The Curriculum

### **Curriculum Organisation**

The Academic year is divided into six modules which each last for a half term. Each module provides opportunities for short term targets which allow students to focus on improving standards. Each module is assessed with students and parents receiving a report on the progress they are making.

All subjects are either taught as a full session (2hr 40mins) or as a half session (1hr 40mins).

There is a 10 session week for all students. The maximum class size is 25.

Session 3s take place Monday - Thursday.





## Pastoral Care

The Academy has a caring and clear system for looking after its students.

Each student is allocated a Personal Tutor who monitors the student's work and general well being at school.

Each student meets their Personal Tutor within a vertical tutor group on a daily basis with older students acting as mentors.

The Personal Tutor is the first point of contact in school for parents.