



THE WELLS ACADEMY  
**Prospectus**





# THE WELLS ACADEMY



'The Wells Academy is an inclusive and diverse school. Leaders ensure that all pupils feel included.'  
*Ofsted, 2023*

## WELCOME

### Dear Families

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to our academy prospectus.

Education has the power to transform lives and it is our mission at The Wells Academy to provide our students with an education that allows them to live a life of meaning and purpose.

At Wells, we strive for excellence and believe all children are entitled to an exceptional quality of education that is built upon a culture of high expectations, an ambitious and inclusive knowledge-rich curriculum, and teachers that are inspirational subject experts. We are confident that this approach will empower our students to reach their full potential.

We take immense pride in our academy, and our students are truly fortunate to benefit from incredible facilities. However, what makes Wells truly exceptional is our talented and dedicated staff. Each member of our team takes the time to get to know every student in our care, ensuring a supportive and nurturing environment.

As you explore our prospectus, we hope it provides you with a glimpse into life at Wells. We also extend an open invitation to families wishing to visit us during the day to witness our academy 'in action'. We believe that seeing our dedicated staff and enthusiastic students first hand will truly showcase the vibrant and thriving community that is The Wells Academy.

Thank you for taking an interest and considering us as a potential educational home for your child. We look forward to meeting you and discussing how we can work together to provide the very best educational experience for them.

Best wishes



Mr G Coles, Principal

## CRITICAL QUESTIONS

### Why do we exist?

We exist to provide our students with an education that allows them to live a life of meaning and purpose. By the end of Year 11, we want each of our students to be equipped with the knowledge, character and qualifications required to make a positive and lasting contribution to their family, community and the world.

### How do we behave?

#### Integrity

the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles.

#### Resilience

the capacity to withstand or to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness.

#### Ambition

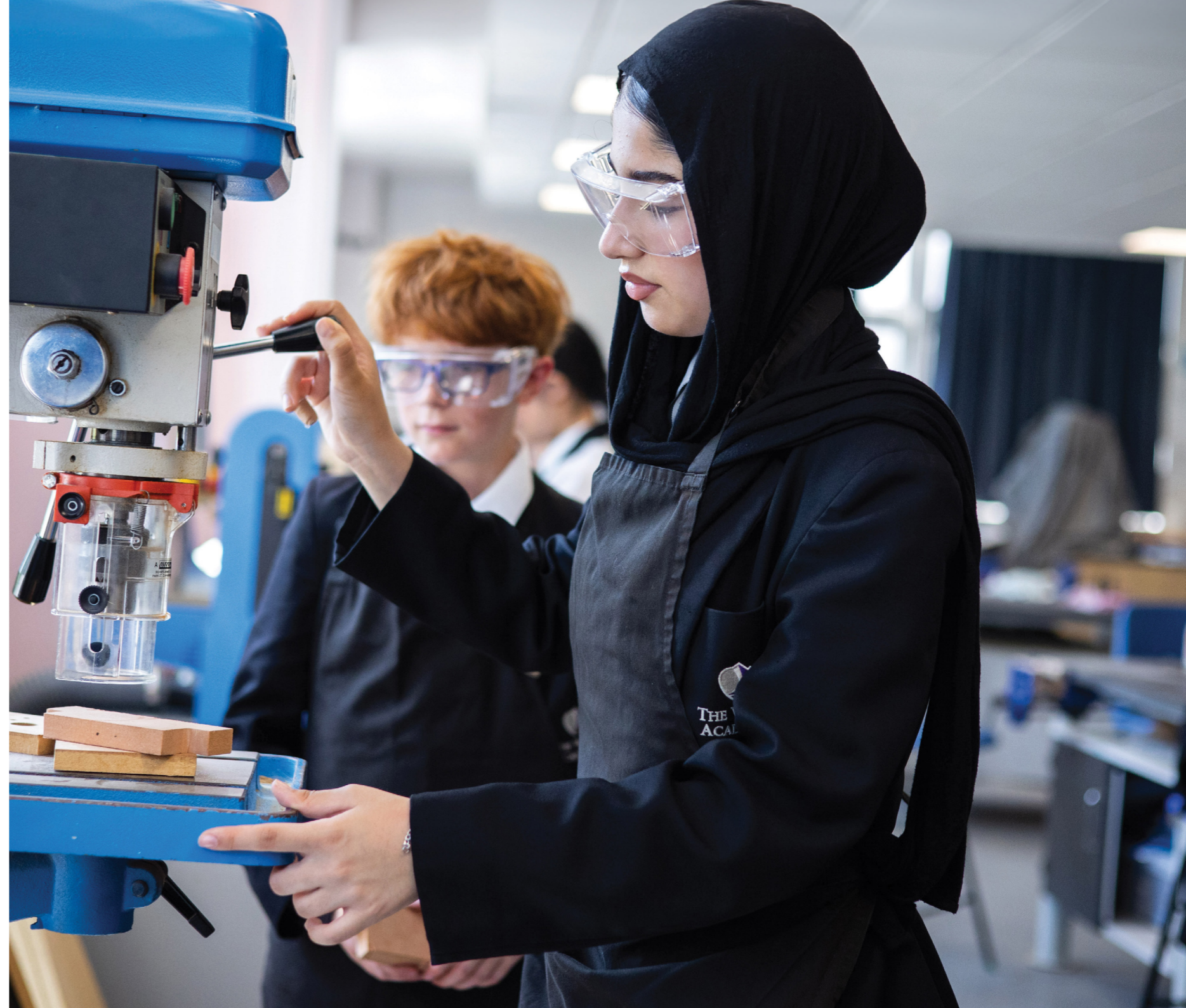
a strong desire to do or achieve something.

### What do we do?

We teach students a knowledge rich curriculum and support them to gain the very best qualifications.

### How will we succeed?

- 1 Uphold a culture of high expectations
- 2 Develop an ambitious and inclusive knowledge-rich curriculum
- 3 Raise standards of expert, evidence-informed teaching





## HIGH EXPECTATIONS

We believe all students flourish in an environment that is calm, structured and free from disruption.

At The Wells Academy, we don't just expect good behaviour, we teach it explicitly. We have established a series of Learning Habits so students know exactly how to conduct themselves at all times. To reinforce this, we use recognition and rewards to celebrate and motivate students getting it right with a positive attitude to learning.

Our staff are warm but strict. This means they are kind, caring and unwavering in their expectations. Students at Wells are expected to be in school, on time and wearing perfect uniform. They are also expected to communicate confidently with manners and courtesy.

Our students appreciate our high standards and understand how it makes The Wells Academy a happy and safe place to learn.

'Leaders have high expectations of what pupils can achieve, including pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).'  
*Ofsted, 2023*

# AMBITIOUS CURRICULUM

We advocate a curriculum that is ambitious, inclusive and knowledge rich, rooted in our core values of Integrity, Resilience and Ambition.

## Ambitious

Our curriculum is unapologetically ambitious. We set high expectations for all students and provide them with the resources and support they need to reach their goals. We teach our ambitious curriculum explicitly so students may confidently grasp challenging content and ideas.

## Inclusive

Our curriculum is inclusive in terms of what is taught and how we teach it.

- **Content:** we celebrate difference and champion diversity. We believe our curriculum should reflect and celebrate the diversity of our academy community and the world beyond us.
- **Design:** we believe all students, regardless of their starting point, are entitled to the same ambitious curriculum. This means that our curriculum is designed to be accessible to all students.
- **Reading:** we view reading as the gateway to the curriculum. Students are provided with individualised reading support to ensure that they may access the curriculum fully.

## Knowledge rich

Our curriculum prioritises the acquisition of knowledge and facts because we believe that knowledge is power. Every student, regardless of their background, deserves to learn about 'the best that has been thought and said'. We view the curriculum as a vehicle for social justice and believe all students deserve to have a deep and broad understanding of the world around them.

'Leaders have ensured that there is an ambitious and well sequenced curriculum in place for all subjects.'  
*Ofsted, 2023*



## EXPERT TEACHING

We have a track record for attracting and retaining talented staff. Our teachers are inspirational subject experts that bring our ambitious curriculum to life every day in the classroom.

Teachers at Wells engage with a high-quality programme of professional development to ensure classroom instruction is informed by the latest research. All lessons are meticulously planned and based on the best educational research that supports students to acquire knowledge and commit it to their long-term memory.

Teachers use The Wells Academy Teaching Framework to ensure their lessons are successful. This includes:

**Retrieve:** Students review their prior learning through a process called retrieval practice. Lessons are placed into context as teachers explain how the material relates to what was learned last lesson, last term and last year.

**Instruct:** Teachers present subject matter with precise explanations, examples and models so students understand exactly what is being asked of them.

**Assess:** Student learning is checked and reviewed constantly to ensure that knowledge is learned and remembered over time.

**Embed:** Students are provided with opportunities to embed new learning and teachers only move on when they are confident students are secure in their understanding.

This model ensures all students make progress, regardless of their starting point.

# BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

We take pride in our Personal Development Programme that is designed to teach students how to become well-rounded individuals and conscientious citizens of Modern Britain. Our programme is aligned to our core values of Integrity, Resilience and Ambition and supports with the development of students' character.

Our Personal Development Programme comprises the following strands:

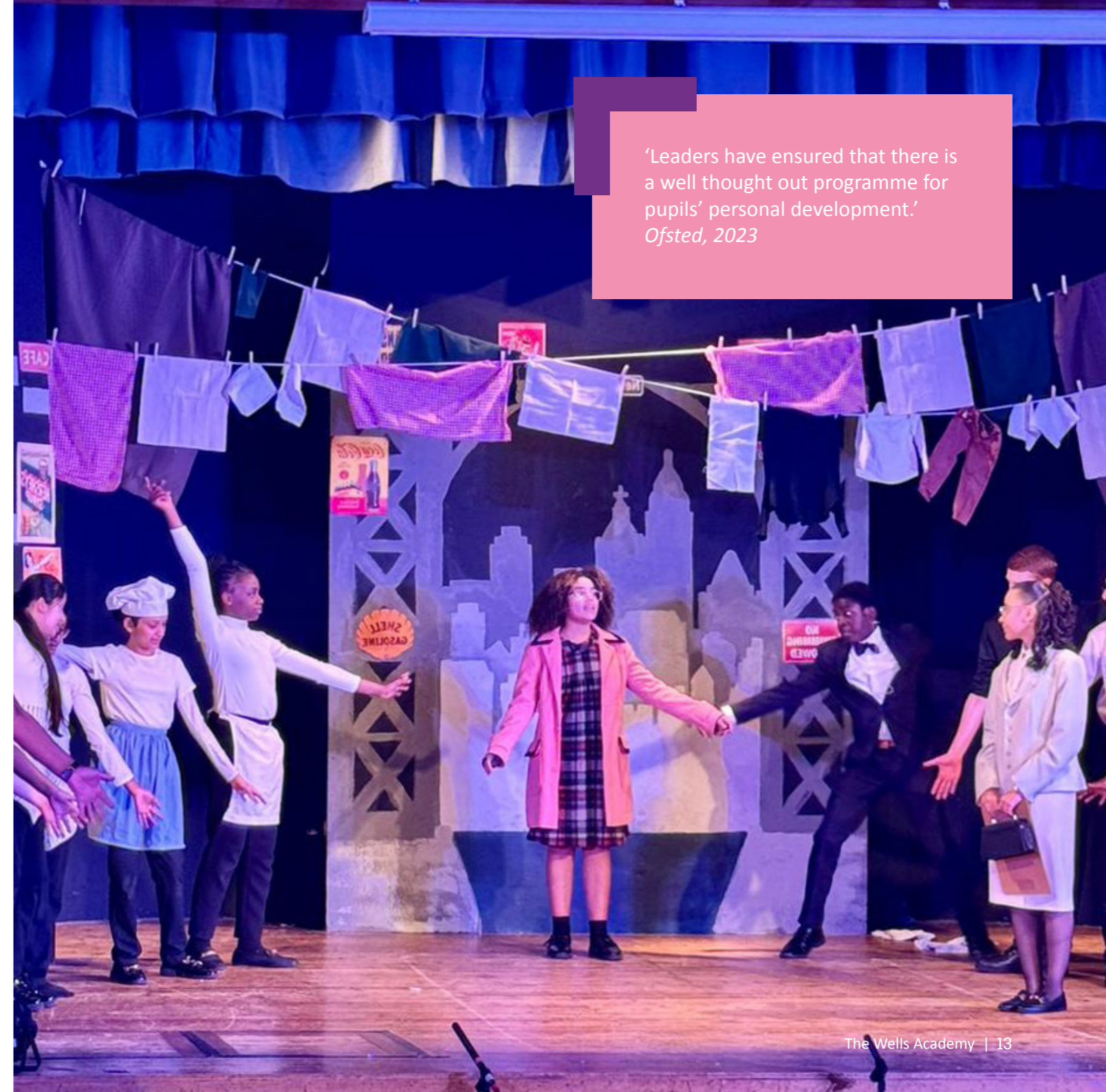
- Personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE)
- Relationships and sex education (RSE)
- Citizenship
- Careers
- British Values
- Equality, diversity and protected characteristics
- Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- Character development
- Student leadership
- Wider opportunities

It is taught as a discrete lesson and focuses on the following Fundamental Ideas:

- Health and wellbeing
- Relationships
- Wider world

The knowledge taught in lessons is further enhanced by a cohesive programme of: assemblies, drop down days, curriculum subject lessons, student leadership opportunities and enrichment trips and activities.

At Wells we take pride in providing enriching educational opportunities that extend beyond the classroom. Field trips and clubs empower students to connect with their subjects on a deeper level and foster a greater appreciation for the world around them. Many students participate in extra-curricular sports activities and represent the academy in our teams playing football, badminton and volleyball. Students also have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of cultural activities, including art club, musical instrument lessons and school productions. We also offer the highly regarded Duke of Edinburgh Award.



'Leaders have ensured that there is a well thought out programme for pupils' personal development.'  
*Ofsted, 2023*



## CAREERS

**We have a full programme of careers and employability activities for students in all year groups.**

Each year we hold an education fair and a careers and apprenticeship fair for students to speak to visitors from lots of different organisations about college, sixth form, university, apprenticeships and many different career areas.

Throughout the year we welcome representatives from local and national organisations, to talk to our students about careers opportunities and routes into specific career areas. These events have taken place during dropdown days, in subject lessons and in assemblies.

All students have a one-to-one careers appointment, CV workshop, mock interview with local and national employers and a week of Work Insight visits. Our dedicated careers advisor is available to provide the support students need to help them make a well-informed, realistic decision about what to do after leaving The Wells Academy.

We are proud to work in partnership with ThinkForward, a charity working to empower young people in the UK through a long-term coaching programme. Our ThinkForward coach works with an identified cohort of students in Years 9, 10 and 11 and for two years after school, delivering one-to-one coaching, group work sessions, work insights and employer mentoring.

We are delighted to have achieved the national Quality in Careers Standard using the Career Mark approach. This external assessment recognises the strength of our careers education, information, advice and guidance provision.

‘Pupils benefit from a well-planned careers programme. This prepares them well for their next steps.’  
*Ofsted, 2023*



## **TRANSITION**

It is essential that all Year 6 students arrive at The Wells Academy feeling excited and well-prepared to take the next steps in their educational journey.

Our transition programme is well established, offering students plenty of opportunities to get to know their new academy community. All new students are placed in a small tutor group that they stay with from Year 7 to Year 11. Each tutor group is led by a tutor who is responsible for the pastoral care of their tutees during their time at The Wells Academy. Students spend time with their new tutor and tutor group during transition days. Families are invited to our Meet the Tutor evenings in the summer term.

Once students have joined us in September, we host a schedule of activities to ensure our new students make friends, get to know their teachers and settle into the routine of the academy day.

# GREENWOOD ACADEMIES TRUST

The Wells Academy is proud to be a part of Greenwood Academies Trust.

Greenwood Academies Trust was formed in 2009 and educates approximately 18,000 pupils across seven local authority areas including Nottingham City, Nottinghamshire, Leicester City, Northamptonshire, Peterborough, Lincolnshire and Central Bedfordshire. GAT is a 'not for profit' organisation.

Our vision is to inspire and to ensure that every pupil thrives, makes excellent progress and succeeds.





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RECEPTION

[www.thewellsacademy.org](http://www.thewellsacademy.org)