



Pleckgate
HIGH SCHOOL

Aspire & Believe. Act & Succeed.





“Expectation of students’ work and their behaviour are high and students strive to meet these expectations with attentiveness and enthusiasm for learning.”

Ofsted, 2015

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Welcome to Pleckgate High School, a thriving community within a state of the art setting that places the best interests of young people at the heart of everything we do.

We are an academy that is part of the Education Partnership Trust. As such we share the Trust’s core principles of high expectations, partnership, passion and innovation.

At Pleckgate everyone is committed to providing the best educational experiences and opportunities for our students. At the heart of our work is a commitment to high quality teaching and learning, and achievement for all. For our students to be safe, happy and successful, developing as individuals into caring, responsible citizens who are proud of their achievements.

We are on a journey to outstanding and we would be honoured if you choose to join that journey with us. I look forward to meeting you as we work together in partnership to make your child’s stay at Pleckgate successful and fulfilling.

Mark Cocker
Headteacher



A new chapter

Pleckgate High School has embarked on a new chapter in its journey to excellence, a journey that we want your child to be a part of.



To mark our new chapter, we have recently updated our school shield and motto, to align them with our re-envisioned school beliefs and values. The new logo reflects our tradition and history while the motto sums up our approach to success in our school. Our students decided on four words that summed up our philosophy:

Aspire

We will motivate your children to have the highest expectations.

Believe

We will support and encourage your child to believe in themselves.

Act

We will guide your children to work hard and make positive actions at school.

Succeed

We will work hard with your children to ensure they are successful.

“It was a great honour to accept the School of the Year award on behalf of Pleckgate High School. It was easy for me to speak confidently and highly of our school. It is a great place to be and it is committed to helping every student to realise their potential.”

Aysha Dagra, Head Girl



“What makes our school great is a combination of the hard work of students and staff alongside a warm, welcoming environment that celebrates diversity. I love my school. The support and guidance I have received has helped me to become confident, happy and successful.”

Abbaas Shakil, Head Boy



Aspire

We will motivate your children to have the highest expectations.



Our transition work

As students move from primary to secondary school, we encourage ambitious goals. Everybody is responsible for creating a culture of high expectations and academic excellence. From the moment you choose our school, we work hard behind the scenes with your primary school to get to know your child.

Our partnership with you

The success of your child at Pleckgate depends very much on our partnership with you, the parents and carers. From this partnership we will grow high aspirations and resilience in your child, that will enable them to be the very best they can be both academically and personally.

Our traditional values

Pleckgate High School has strong values and high academic standards, which support the very highest expectations for our students. Our success is built upon a tradition of providing exceptional opportunities for children, which makes them feel empowered and successful.

Outside the classroom

Whether it be our extensive charity work, numerous educational visits or our partnerships with other local schools and colleges, you can be assured that your child will receive a well-rounded education that extends well beyond the classroom.

“I settled into life very quickly at Pleckgate, thanks to the support of my Tutor.”



“The friendly and supportive environment encourages students to perform to the best of their ability.”



Believe

We will support and encourage your child to believe in themselves.

The most important element of any community is that everybody feels safe, happy and welcomed. The pastoral team at Pleckgate High School is passionate about providing both challenges and support for your child. We ensure that students feel valued and safe so that they enjoy their five years at school.

The school is a supportive and ordered place to be. Maintaining a positive ethos is important to us and we look to praise all pupils who display pleasing behaviour and work. Children thrive on the positive atmosphere at the school and take advantage of the many opportunities available to them. We regularly seek the views of parents and students on a whole range of issues and these views have ensured that the school is a better place.

The key people who will be working hard behind the scenes to secure this success are the Heads of Year and your child's form tutor. Please feel free to contact them at any time if you have any concerns. You will always be made welcome at school if you need to make a visit to share any issues with us.



Act

We will guide your children to work hard and make positive actions at school.

High aspirations and self-belief are key, but must be in tandem with positive actions and a commitment to hard work.



“I love the teaching style at Pleckgate. It makes you want to learn.”

Our Curriculum

The curriculum at Pleckgate High School is both broad and balanced, providing students with the right courses and guidance to enable them to make the next step in their education and careers. Lessons are tailored to meet the needs of all learners and are engaging, fast paced and fun. Students are taught skills and strategies to help them become effective, independent, resilient learners and to prepare them for the different stages of school life and beyond.

Learning Support

Our Learning Support department's aim is for all students with additional support needs to have equal access to the curriculum and to work towards meeting their full potential. Our Learning Support Team comprises of highly qualified and dedicated staff, with experience and knowledge of providing exceptional short and long term support for your child.

Facilities

Our school benefits from a new school building, with first class facilities and resources that play a major part in creating a stimulating environment for learning. Students enjoy lessons in high quality, purpose built accommodation with access to exceptional information and communication technology.

Succeed

We will work hard with your children to ensure they are successful.
Our most recent successes speak for themselves.



Our 2015 Results

- A Progress 8 score of +0.1 (indicating that students make more progress at Pleckgate than students of the same ability nationally)
- 61% achieved A*-C in English and mathematics
- 73% 3 levels of progress and 43% 4 levels of progress in mathematics
- 74% 3 levels of progress in English and 22% 4 levels of progress in English

Our 2016 Results

- A Progress 8 score of +0.22* (indicating that students make more progress at Pleckgate than students of the same ability nationally)
- 61% achieved A*-C in English and mathematics
- 74% 3 levels of progress and 48% 4 levels of progress in mathematics
- 76% 3 levels of progress in English and 38% 4 levels of progress in English

*Subject to change after DFE September data checking exercise

Awards

Pleckgate High School is one of the highest achieving schools in the country on a number of measures. In 2016 we won numerous awards for our achievements:



Placed in the
**top five schools
in the UK**

based on results for schools with similar
prior attainment

Named as a
**'Beacon of
Success'**

by the Institute for Public Policy Research

Awarded the Lancashire Telegraph

**Secondary
School
of the Year**

award for 2016





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Admission Arrangements 2017/18

Pleckgate High School has an agreed admission number of 270 pupils into year 7.

All preferences expressed will be considered equally. If the number of children requiring admission does not exceed 270 all the children will be offered admission. If the number of children requiring admission exceeds 270, then the admissions authority (the Academy Trust) will consider all preferences equally against the oversubscription criteria shown below.

Process of Application

Applications for places at the School will be made in accordance with Blackburn with Darwen LA's co-ordinated admissions arrangements and will be made on the Common Application Form provided and administered by the child's home LA. The School will use the following timetable for applications.

- September to October 31st 2016 – Applications for Sept 2017 admissions can be made via the LA admissions process by either applying online on the LA website or by completing the Common Application Form (available in the LA booklet).
- October 31st 2016 – National Closing date for submission of Common Application Form to the home LA.
- March 1st 2017 - offers made to parents by home LA.

Admission criteria in the event Pleckgate High School is oversubscribed

Where the number of applications is greater than the published admission number, all applications will be considered equally and against the criteria set out below.

Children with either an education, health and care plan or a statement for special educational needs for whom the School is named in the plan/ statement will be admitted first. The remaining applicants who have named the School as a 1st 2nd

or 3rd preference will then be considered equally against the School's admission policy, in the priority order given below:

- 'Looked after' children and children who were previously 'looked after' but immediately after being looked after were adopted or became subject to a residence/child arrangement order, or special guardianship order. 'Looked after' means that the child was (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions.
- Children with an older sibling (sibling means a brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, not cousins, or the child of the parent/carer's partner, and in every case, the child must be living in the same family unit at the same address) who will still be attending the School when the younger child is admitted.
- Children with proven and exceptional medical, social or welfare needs which are directly relevant to the School. If you wish to be considered under this category there is certain evidence you must provide. Please see the note below which provides details regarding the application of this criterion.
- Children who live nearest the school (geographical proximity). Under this category, the remaining places will be offered to children who live nearest to the School. The distance will be measured by the Local Authority in a straight line between the home front door and the main gate of the school using a computer.

Tie-breaker

If category (b) to (d) is oversubscribed, geographical proximity (as set out in category (d)) will be used as the 'tie-breaker' to decide between the remaining cases. Places will be offered to children who live nearest to the School. The distance will be measured by the Local Authority in a straight line between the home front door and the main gate of the School using a computer. If after measuring distances it is

still not possible to decide on the child/ren to be offered admission (for example two children living in the same block of flats or in the same house) the Local Authority's system of random allocation will be used to decide which of the children can be offered a place. The draw will take place at the Local Authority's offices, and the names will be drawn by a local authority officer who is independent of the admissions process.

Priority for Twins/Multiple births

If an application has been made for places for twins/ triplets/2 or more siblings in the same year group and insufficient places are left within the published admission number (i.e. one of the siblings is the last child who can be admitted within that number) it may be possible for the School to offer places to the other sibling(s) in the birth group.

NOTE – Criterion (c) Medical, Social, Welfare reasons

If you feel that there are exceptional medical/ social/welfare needs relating to your child which support the need for your child to attend a particular school, and wish your application to be considered under criterion (c) you must state this on your application form AND provide appropriate written supporting evidence for your application from a doctor, social worker or other professional. This evidence must explain why the School is the most suitable and what difficulties would be caused if the child had to attend another school.

This evidence should accompany the application form. If necessary, parents can submit the application form and send the supporting evidence at a later date but the supporting evidence MUST be received by the Local Authority on or before the closing date for applications. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure that the Local Authority receives the supporting evidence.

If you do not provide the supporting evidence on or before the closing date, then it will not be possible to consider your application under the medical/social/welfare criterion.



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Education
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An Education Partnership Trust School