



# School Ethos and Pastoral Care

## Ethos

At The Roundhill Academy we strive to support our students to surpass their academic targets. Our curriculum develops learning attributes that promote lifelong, responsible learners. Whilst we accept that academic success is essential, equally, we invest in the personal development of young people as we recognise our role as educators of the next generation of leaders and decision makers. Embedded in school culture is a nurturing and inclusive approach where all members of our community feel valued and motivated to contribute to the wider success of the academy.



## Pastoral care

The transfer from primary to secondary school can be a challenging time. We want to make this step as easy as possible by working with local primary schools and families prior to your child starting at The Roundhill Academy. We aim to provide stability of relationships from the first day, with all students belonging to one of four houses, supported by their Tutor and their Head of Year. Students tell us they feel safe at school and know who to talk to if they need support. We are committed to ensuring the pastoral care of our students remains an exceptional feature of school culture. We believe that when students are happy and engaged, they will be successful.



## The Curriculum

The Roundhill Academy's curriculum is one that engages and stimulates students to develop both intellectually and emotionally. At the heart of the curriculum is the teaching of the key knowledge and ideas that have formed and shaped our society. We believe that once students have acquired and mastered this powerful knowledge they are in a position to be productive and creative participants in the world around them.

The intent of the curriculum is to develop responsible, well-rounded and resilient young people with a strong sense of citizenship and moral values. We want our students to be ready to seize the opportunities and respond to the challenges of a rapidly changing 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The curriculum at The Roundhill Academy is broad and ambitious. From year 7 students study core lessons of English Language and Literature, Mathematics, Sciences and Humanities alongside Modern Foreign languages, RE, Computing, Art, Drama, Design, Music and PE. All students continue to study core subjects to GCSE, coupled with further personal GCSE choices from the wider range of subjects. Some students will also study BTEC vocational subjects. A well developed Careers program leads to a broad variety of post-16 choices and pathways.

Our curriculum offer is designed to meet the needs of all students whilst allowing flexibility to individuals. Carefully planned reading and literacy strategies are effective in accelerating progress, whilst additional support in lessons ensures that all learners are successful.

Social, emotional and health aspects of learning are addressed through all subjects in the curriculum. This is enhanced by personal development and citizenship lessons delivered in discreet curriculum lessons and as part of a comprehensive tutoring program. A curriculum enrichment offer gives students the opportunity to engage in a wide range of experiences through visits, community work, guest speakers and enterprise initiatives.

The sequencing of learning in all curriculum subjects is planned in detail to ensure that there is a rich depth to the knowledge that students accumulate. Teaching pays particular attention to retrieval and application of knowledge so that it is retained securely in long-term memory allowing students to master their subjects.



## Transition

The two Bradgate Education Partnership secondary schools, Wreake Valley Academy and The Roundhill Academy, have collaborated to produce a joint transition programme for the August 2021 cohort. Therefore, most of the Year 6 pupils in the local area will have a shared transition experience.

The focus of our transition programme is to ensure the continuation of academic progress and the smooth and informed handover of pastoral care from primary staff to secondary staff. We want all pupils to thrive socially, feel confident to make new friends, be familiar with the routines and expectations of their new school and ultimately feel ready for secondary.

Outlined below are some of the key dates and events you can expect. There are other face to face experiences we are very keen to provide, but this will be something we can introduce when we are sure of the government guidelines and recommendations.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activities/Events</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	Email sent to parents/carers of Year 6 pupils and letters distributed to the primary schools inviting Year 6 pupils and a parent/carer to the Open Evenings. Each Primary school allocated a date and time.
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> , Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> and Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	The Bradgate Secondary School Open Evenings, held at Wreake Valley Academy. The Roundhill Academy and Wreake Valley Academy staff to host an evening for Year 6 and their parent/carer. Tour of the facilities at Wreake Valley, and a virtual tour of The Roundhill Academy.
October 2020	Where possible staff from The Roundhill Academy and Wreake Valley Academy to visit Year 6 in their primary school to answer questions. This may be face to face or virtually.
31st October 2020	Admissions forms to be completed by parents and returned to County Hall.
Beginning of March 2021	Pupils will be notified of allocated school. Welcome packs sent home with Year 7 Handbook for Pupils, and a Parent's/Carer's Guide to Year 7 starting at Secondary School, including information about uniform, uniform suppliers, cashless catering and buses. The SENDCo at both schools will begin the process of supporting children with additional needs.



## Transition continued...

Date	Activities/Events
March 2021	Emailing group set up with Parents/Carers so we can keep in contact. This will be used to provide on-going information, and parents/carers will be provided with a direct email contact to use if they have any questions.
March 2021	Primary Transition tab added to the Wreake Valley Academy website and The Roundhill Academy website for the August 2021 cohort. All letters that are sent home and other information regarding starting at secondary school will be posted here.
March/April 2021	Transition staff from Wreake Valley Academy and The Roundhill Academy will visit the Year 6, who have been allocated a place, in their primary school.
May/June 2021	Transition staff from WVA and TRA to meet with Year 6 teachers to discuss individual pupils and begin the handing over process.
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June and Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2021	<p>Welcome Days</p> <p>All new Year 7 students to spend two days at their secondary school. Students will meet with their tutor, Head of Year and other subject teachers.</p>
30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	<p>New Year 7 Parents Evening</p> <p>All parents are invited, with their son/daughter to meet the Year 7 Tutors with the opportunity to meet the Headteacher, Senior managers, SENDCo, and Head of Year.</p>

For further information, please email: [transitions@roundhill.leics.sch.uk](mailto:transitions@roundhill.leics.sch.uk)



## Enrichment

At The Roundhill Academy we focus not just on the academic progress of students but also those experiences which help with personal development. We call these Enrichment Experiences. We believe that these experiences are so important to the development of young people that we have created an *Enrichment Entitlement Statement* which commits us to making sure we offer a diverse range of 15 different experiences to all students over their time at Roundhill. The list of these experiences is on our website but include: Spending a night away from home; visiting a foreign country; visit a place of cultural or historical significance; and undertaking practical fieldwork in an out of school setting. We believe that by taking part in all 15 of these experiences, over the course of 5 years whilst at Roundhill, it will not just aid with the academic progression of students but will drastically enhance their personal development.

Many of these experiences take place during the school day, sometimes on-site, but also in the form of day-trips to places where teachers can make a link from what they are teaching in the curriculum to a real-life application. We also offer various residential activities where students can stay away from home with their friends and take part in a mixture of adventurous and educational activities. Our current residential activities currently include a Bushcraft experience for Year 7, a science residential in the Lake District in Year 8, and an overseas trip to either Paris or Barcelona. We also offer the opportunity for students from year 9 to take part in the challenging, yet highly rewarding Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.





## Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND)

The SEND provision at Roundhill has a highly qualified and experienced team who are located in the Progress Base. We work closely with professional (Education Psychologists, CAMHS) to try and ensure that the interventions and support help your child to access all aspects of academy life.

There is always an adult in the Progress Base who can help when things get difficult; we believe in a holistic approach to education and supporting mental health and well-being sits closely alongside supporting the access to academic learning.

The Progress Base offers lunchtime and break time activities for those students who find the hustle and bustle of the academy social time overwhelming; this is a space to eat, sit quietly or join in with activities.

Teaching Assistants support across the curriculum helping young people in lessons to access the tasks and feel confident about their learning.

You are welcome to contact the SENDCo (Jeanette Knowles and Sarah Dally) should you wish to discuss your child's needs in greater detail. [sarah.dally@roundhill.leics.sch.uk](mailto:sarah.dally@roundhill.leics.sch.uk)





## Uniform

<b>JUMPER</b>	Dark navy/silver V-neck with school name
<b>TROUSERS</b>	Classic suit style trousers in mid-grey. Tight fitting or cropped trousers are not acceptable. During hot weather tailored mid-grey shorts may be worn
<b>SKIRT</b>	<u>A fully pleated knee length skirt in plain mid-grey.</u> The skirt should not be tightly tailored or of a stretchy "lycra" type material
<b>SHIRT</b>	White shirt – must be tucked in at all times and the top button done up
<b>TIE</b>	Clip on school tie
<b>SOCKS</b>	Plain black, grey, navy or white
<b>TIGHTS</b>	Plain black, natural, navy or grey. No leggings, footless tights or patterned tights
<b>FOOTWEAR</b>	Plain sensible flat black footwear
<b>COAT</b>	Outdoor coats should be dark and plain in colour, compatible with our school uniform and discrete logos only
<b>PE KIT</b>	<p>Boys &amp; Girls compulsory items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black sports polo shirt with white piping and school name</li> <li>• Black shorts / skort / tracksuit bottom with white piping</li> </ul> <p>Boys &amp; Girls optional items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black sports zipped hoodie with school name</li> <li>• Black leggings / Black base layer</li> <li>• Black sports socks</li> <li>• Training shoes</li> <li>• Football boots</li> </ul>



## Transport

Most students walk into school, but some come in on bikes or scooters. Premises staff padlock the bike lock-up gate at around 8.45am and unlock it again just before 3pm at the end of school.

If students get a lift into school, we ask that parents drop off and pick you up from the back of Asda carpark. There is a cut-through that connects to the school site and is much safer than lots of cars around the school gates or in the school carpark.

### **Bus Service run by Ausden Clark**

The service covers Hamilton and Thurmaston and drops off at The Roundhill Academy before arriving at Wreake Valley Academy

### **Drop off points and times**

07.45am - Tesco Hamilton – bus stop opposite petrol station

Bus will stop at each stop along Maidenwell Ave

7.58am – Turns on to Sandhills Avenue

8.00am – Humberstone Lane

Bus then stops at each of the following stops – time is traffic dependant

- Willow Pub

- Colby Drive

- Roundway Shops

- Turns onto Humberstone Lane

- Just past Westdown Dr

- Stops at The Roundhill Academy and then straight on to Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form.

Route reversed in the afternoon

Parents pay monthly in advance