

THE LANGLEY ACADEMY

BROCHURE 2018-2019

The Langley Academy is a unique academy that serves the young people of Langley, Slough and further afield. Housed in an iconic new building, designed by Foster and Partners, it specialises in Science, pioneers the use of museum learning and aims to become a centre of excellence for sports, notably rowing and cricket.

SPONSOR'S WELCOME

As the Sponsor, I am proud to welcome you to The Langley Academy. It is a unique Academy; an establishment that makes a real difference to our students' lives. We believe in an holistic education. Through our pastoral and house system, we ensure that students are happy, safe and able to develop into confident young people who believe they can achieve anything they put their minds to. Our six areas of focus deliver an enriching experience around Museum Learning, Sustainability, Internationalism, Science, Rowing and Cricket. These support the development of each child and help them to understand the world around them and the part they can play in making it better.



It has always been our ambition to be the best academy in the country by offering an outstanding curriculum that supports the principles of both depth and breadth, so that each student receives a personalised education. We meet their needs and allow them to achieve the very best grades. We also know that we must provide much more than just great academic results. We give students opportunities that they just would not get at other schools. We provide a stable foundation that sets our students apart from others and gives them a real sense of self-belief and confidence that is so important in the mind-set of a successful individual.

The Langley Academy is the founding academy in our Multi-Academy Trust, which has allowed us to sponsor Parlaunt Park Primary Academy and to build our own primary school, The Langley Academy Primary. The Langley Academy Primary opened in September 2015 in temporary accommodation and moved into a brand- new building on our site in September 2016. This extension into the Primary sector is a very exciting development that I believe is already enriching the experiences of our students and in time will open up more opportunities for personal development for students and staff at The Langley Academy.

We are very positive about our future and look forward to meeting you.

Annabel Nicoll, Sponsor

HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME

It is a pleasure to welcome you to The Langley Academy. We hope that this prospectus will give you a clear picture of the type of school this is and the experience our students enjoy during their time with us.

At the Academy, we believe that students come to school to learn and achieve in order to live full and enriched lives. We want to empower them to contribute positively to their family, the community and the wider world. The staff, governors and trustees work hard together, along with parents and carers, to ensure that each of our students leaves with a set of results of which they can be proud.

We place a strong emphasis on developing students' confidence through opportunities in and beyond the classroom so that they can develop their personal and academic interests. Teachers and support staff seek to meet the needs of all within a rich and balanced curriculum, underpinned by our strapline of Curiosity, Exploration and Discovery. In return, we expect all students to be fully prepared and active participants in their learning. An agreed and established set of ground rules based on respect allows everyone to get the best from lessons, activities and unstructured time.

Our students will tell you that the Academy is a safe place to learn and grow. I am very proud to be part of such a warm and cohesive staff that supports and promotes the achievement and wellbeing of all children who attend here.

I hope that you will choose to visit us and be impressed with the beautiful building and the wonderful opportunities within it.

Alison Lusuardi
Headteacher

'There is a sense of pride, both in The Langley Academy and in the outcomes pupils achieve, that is shared between staff, governors, trustees and pupils.' Ofsted 2017.



OUR VISION

To provide an outstanding education for every child in the trust through high aspirations and through the principles of quality learning using curiosity, exploration and discovery.

At the Academy your child will join us on a journey of learning from the moment they enter to the day they leave.



We inspire our students by igniting the natural flame of curiosity that lives within every child.



We encourage our students to bravely explore new terrains of knowledge, thoughts and ideas.



We give our students the confidence to discover, by seeing what everybody has seen but thinking what nobody has yet thought.



CURIOSITY | EXPLORATION | DISCOVERY

OUR SPECIALISM AND KEY FOCI

As soon as students first start at the Academy they join a House, to which they will belong throughout their Academy life. Each of the six Houses Arbib, Darwin, Gaia, Globe, Grace and Henley are linked with a specialism or key focus, which sit at the heart of our Academy.

As a science specialist academy, science education and scientific enquiry is at the centre of everything that we do. We have amazing facilities for the teaching of Science, with our circular Science teaching pods at the very heart of our fantastic building. In addition we have a large, dynamic and experienced Science teaching team who make lessons exciting and challenging. We aim to capture and extend the scientific imagination of students and inspire them to make positive choices about their future, including careers. Darwin House has science as its focus.

As the UK's first museum learning school all lessons are built on curiosity. We also use object based learning as a cornerstone of our approach to the curriculum and our students and staff have tremendous opportunities to work with different museums including our own museum in the Academy. Arbib House has museum learning as its focus.

We are fast developing as a centre of excellence for cricket and rowing. We believe this will allow attributes such as confidence, self-discipline, determination and the importance of effective teamwork to be nurtured amongst our students. We have excellent indoor and outdoor cricket facilities, which are also proving very popular with the local community. Our Director of Rowing is a Gold Level rowing coach and has coached at World Junior Championship level. Students who take part in our rowing programme regularly participate in a range of indoor competitions. Grace House has cricket as its focus, whilst Henley House has rowing as its focus.

Our students and staff come from many parts of the world and we are committed to promoting an international awareness amongst our students. Students are encouraged to appreciate diverse cultures and to be a citizen of the world. We have already achieved the Intermediate International Schools Award which recognises good practice in developing an international ethos. OFSTED has recognised and commented on the excellent harmonious atmosphere at the Academy. Globe House has internationalism as its focus.

Our Academy is designed to be sustainable. Students at the Academy are very much encouraged to be aware of sustainability and renewable energy sources, so that we look hard at all that we do and its effect on our planet. The Academy has a wide range of features including a biomass boiler, solar panels, rain water harvesting tanks, a reed bed and many more design features. Various displays demonstrate to students the environmental savings achieved. Our students actively participate in various recycling schemes together with our Academy Eco Council. Gaia House has sustainability as its focus.

'Pupils and sixth formers confidently welcome visitors, are proud to share their work and enjoy working with teachers.' Ofsted 2017



CURIOSITY | EXPLORATION | DISCOVERY

CURRICULUM

At The Langley Academy we embed a knowledge-based curriculum as the cornerstone of an excellent academically rigorous education. It strives to be innovative, inspirational and inclusive to focus on the outcomes of all. We aim to provide a curriculum which is broad, well-balanced and above all stimulates the students' love of learning.

Student progress is monitored through regular assessments. We look at student attitude to learning as well as their actual achievement. This information is then regularly shared with parents throughout the year. Reports are emailed four times a year. A parents' evening is held once a year for each year group where parents can meet with subject teachers to discuss academic progress.

IN YEARS 7 – 8 (KEY STAGE 3)

At KS3 we ensure our students start their academy life by experiencing a wide range of subjects. In their first two years students will explore Maths, English, Science, PE, ICT, Design Tech, Music, Drama, Art, Geography, History, French or Spanish, Religious and Personal Studies.

During Year 8, students will start to consider their GCSE/BTEC options ready to begin in Year 9. Subject teachers and Raising Standards Leaders work closely with students and parents to identify the best combination for each student, with long-term goals and career choices in mind.

IN YEARS 9 – 11 (KEY STAGE 4)

In Year 9 our students start their journey towards their first academic and vocational qualifications depending on the courses they have selected.

We prepare students to sit GCSE examinations throughout Years 9, 10 and 11. Our aim is to ensure students have an open choice in their subjects and this enables students to better balance workload and provides an increased focus on achievement in key subjects during each year. Year 10 students have the opportunity to explore potential future careers. Students will analyse their own skills base with respect to future work requirements and develop the qualities that will help with application writing, CV's and interviews. A major event in the Year 10 calendar is the one week work experience; this is supported by a range of careers workshops and guidance to support their journey into successful further and higher education.

During Year 11, students are provided with tasters of what 6th Form life would be like, to encourage them to pursue further education whether academic or vocational, and to start making informed choices about their post-16 lives. In preparation for their examinations students are provided with regular revision sessions throughout the year and during half-term holidays and weekends in the lead up to examinations.

IN YEARS 12 – 13 (6TH FORM)

Since the opening of The Langley Academy in 2008, the 6th Form has quickly established itself as a thriving, successful and popular choice. Our study facilities, within the dedicated 6th Form Centre, ensure that our students have the best possible resources for independent study and research.

We set ourselves high standards for the quality of learning and teaching and our dedicated, experienced and enthusiastic staff help provide exciting and challenging lessons aimed to enthuse and encourage independent learning. Students aren't just taught to survive the rigours of the competitive university application process and life in the workplace, but complement their core studies by contributing to their community and mastering transferable skills such as negotiation, collaboration and cooperation.



CURIOSITY | EXPLORATION | DISCOVERY

CARE, GUIDANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

We have created a system of guidance and support, through our pastoral system which means our students can feel safe, secure, well cared for and supported. Students meet in their Tutor Groups daily.

The Year Tutor and Head of Year are the key people in each student's life at the Academy. If a student faces a challenge in a subject or at home, or if there is a concern over behaviour or attendance, the Year Tutor will be the first person to contact you. Similarly, if you have concerns, you can contact your child's Year Tutor either by email, telephone, letter or through a note in your child's planner. Parents and Year Tutors are expected to check these regularly making them a useful form of communication.

Our academic mentoring system means that Year Tutors are able to focus on student performance and learning, and play an important role in helping us to maintain student achievement. The Pastoral System at the Academy means that senior members of staff, (Raising Standards Leaders) the Heads of Year, can focus on student performance and identify any barriers to learning.

We also have a large team of staff to provide additional learning support to those students who need it and who work to support those students whose behaviour needs improving. Student Support Managers provide one-to-one mentoring. The Student Support Unit provides a safe, secure learning area where students can go for support and nurturing. The Academy Counsellor provides a support service for students who would like to share issues in a confidential environment. On the occasions where students do not meet the expected standard of behaviour, they may attend our Inclusion Centre. This is a base where students can reflect on their behaviour, be supported and be provided with guidance on changing their outlook. This helps improve their reintegration back into main academy life.

Our 6th Form students have year tutor groups. As well as monitoring attendance, behaviour and academic progress through these important years, the Tutors will encourage students to develop socially, culturally, morally and spiritually. They also support students through the important UCAS process by co-ordinating and drafting references to ensure our 6th Formers will maximise their chances of reaching their destinations.



WHAT WE DO TO STRETCH OUR MOST ABLE STUDENTS

We believe in stretching the abilities and talents of all our students. In addition to this, in each subject we identify more able students. Various programmes are then in put place in different year groups to support their development.

Year 7 and 8 students this year had the opportunity to put their problem solving skills to the test when the puzzle company came in to the Academy. Students worked in groups to complete puzzles that required critical thinking, creativity and team work. Linking closely to the mathematical work completed in lesson students worked with shapes, correlation and pattern in workshops tailored to ability.

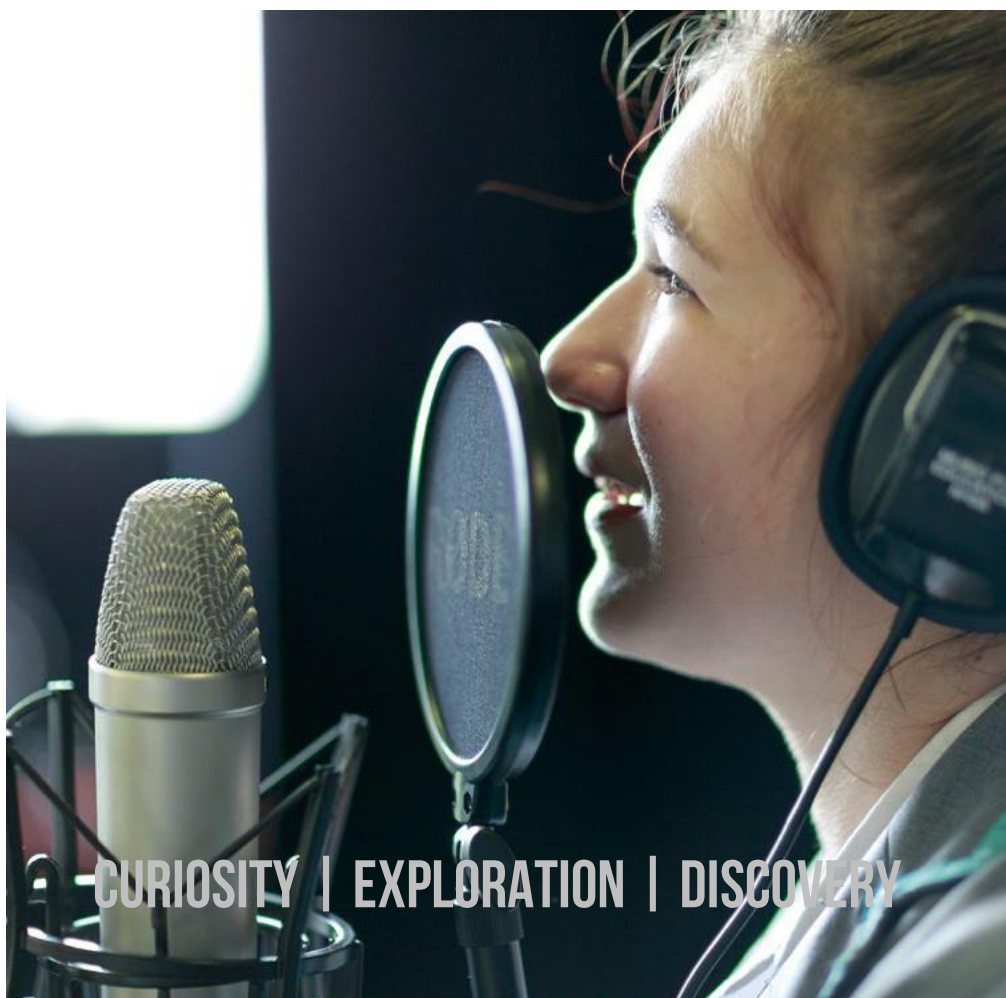
With several music studios we are able to provide subsidised music lessons with professional music tutors for students who have a desire to develop a skill on a range of musical instruments from guitar, piano, violin etc.

Our special museum learning focus also allows us to support raised attainment within a subject, as well as wider personal development outcomes during the enrichment and Tutor Group programmes. Last year this included a research competition with the London School of Economics and Cumberland Lodge, a centre for creative thinking and inclusive dialogue.

Our focus on sporting excellence in rowing and cricket has enabled us to produce students who have progressed to gifted and talented programmes

for county rowing, whilst specialist cricket coaches develop the talents of students demonstrating higher ability. These programmes are supported using our excellent indoor and outdoor facilities.

Providing for the most able has been supported by the appointment of a challenge coordinator. At the academy we believe all students should be challenged in lessons as well as in extra-curricular activities. The role requires identification, monitoring and mentoring students that excel academically ensuring work is pitched to their level and not an addition. The coordinator works with both staff and students to ensure every student is challenged, encouraged to think creatively, encouraged to work independently and given the opportunity to develop problem solving skills so they are prepared for a competitive future education and careers.



CURIOSITY | EXPLORATION | DISCOVERY

ENRICHMENT FOR STUDENTS

66 students participated in the award last year

As part of providing students at the Academy with a wider range of experiences, Enrichment takes place every Thursday afternoon. We encourage students to try new activities and for KS3 with a wider range of clubs, there is something for everyone.

Clubs range from a wide variety of sports clubs such as table tennis, rowing, fitness and golf to a range of other clubs such as organic gardening, health & beauty, art, languages, and scrabble. For a full up to date list please check our Enrichment website under the parent section.

With each of our six Houses linked to key foci, a special focus week runs each half term. During each of these weeks students undertake a wide range of inspiring activities. Science Week involves a range of exciting activities including building actual rockets, which they can then launch on the playing fields achieving heights of 100m. During Sustainability Week students will learn and further develop their understanding of the importance of sustainability within the wider world. Rowing Week sees students competing in a virtual race across the globe. This competitive sporting spirit continues in Cricket Week with inter-house competitions. Students are always fascinated and amazed during Museum Learning Week, when they can experience objects which ignite their curiosity, such as when they have been able to play musical instruments used through different centuries.

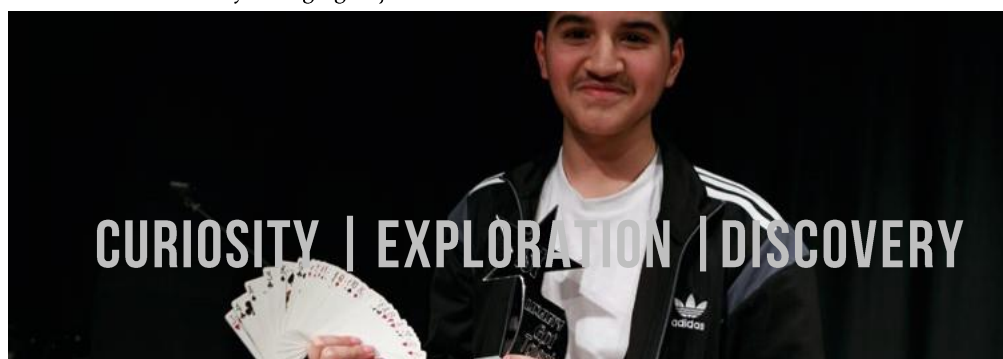
At The Langley Academy we are proud to offer students opportunities to grow as strong members and leaders with our local community. The Langley Academy became a licenced centre at the end of 2012 and offered the opportunity for 44 students to participate in the bronze award for the Duke of Edinburgh. Each year has seen growth in the award and we now offer 60 students the opportunity to participate in the bronze award, with 24 at silver level and for the first time this year, we now offer gold. The DofE has become a popular award and it kudos with the academy has grown enormously due to the success of student completion, making us the most successful centre (compared to similar sized centres) for the completion of the award for the fourth year in succession.

(60 in the previous year) and 117 have applied for the opportunity this year, even though we only have 60 places for year 10 students available for the bronze award. We have started the Silver Award with our current year 12's and 19 have enrolled.

We are enormously proud of our completion rate, which sits proudly at 94%, compared to 51% for the national average. The award is incredibly rewarding, for both the students AND the staff involved, with a noticeable change in the students involved attitude and outlook due to their experience and efforts over the course. Achieving the Award gives students' skills, confidence and a view on life that everyone is looking for, from employers to colleges and universities. Students often get recognition for doing things they want to do (and may even be doing already), as well as making a difference to other people's lives and their community, becoming fitter and healthier, new friends and having making memories that last a lifetime... and above all, it's a great laugh in the process.

With a wide range of sporting activities and clubs, students can always find a sport which they can enjoy at a competitive or leisure level. We have very successful teams for both boys and girls in basketball, football, x-country, netball, rugby and rowing. Our rowing activities have become increasingly popular, with our students successfully taking part in a number of rowing competitions throughout the year.

As part of the Academy's museum learning focus there are several trips every month to museums and cultural heritage sites. This includes the River and Rowing museum in Henley, and various Art, Science and History museums in London and also in Oxford. Continually changing objects in our



PARENT/CARER VOICE

At the Academy we encourage parents and carers to help shape school life for their children.

A Parent's Forum is held each term in the evening so that parents who work can also attend. The Forum is open to all parents from all year groups. Different topics of interest to parents are raised at each meeting and past topics have included Year 7 transition, homework, uniform, behaviour, exams and options. Copies of the outcomes from each meeting are posted on our website.

Our Governing Body also includes parents who play an active role in important committees which set academy policy.

We have a dedicated email address for parents to express their views to the Academy.

parentvoice@langleyacademy.org



STUDENT VOICE

We encourage our students to play an active part in shaping life at the Academy.

Our Student Council comprises students from across the houses and year groups to provide a representative body. With regular meetings, the Council is able to raise and discuss issues that are important to students. The issues raised are passed on to the senior leadership team for consideration and action or feedback. The Student Council also produces a termly student newsletter, which is written for students by students on topics of interest to them.

We also involve students in the recruitment process for new teachers, where students meet with potential new recruits. Through co-construction we involve students in the development of effective teaching so that we constantly gain feedback from students about their view on effective delivery of learning to them. Students are therefore able to play an important part in the shape of their future learning.

Our 6th Form student leadership team comprises the Head Boy, Head Girl, Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl. As well as helping lead the Academy Council for the lower year groups, these students help organise social events for the 6th Form. They also provide a representative voice to raise issues important to 6th Form students.

All 6th Formers are also expected to become responsible prefects and actively undertake a range of duties. They are expected to be role models for the rest of their younger peers and together with the student leadership team, they regularly support a variety of academy events throughout the year.



CURIOSITY | EXPLORATION | DISCOVERY

OUR RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

When The Arbib Foundation decided to sponsor The Langley Academy they commissioned renowned architects Foster and Partners to design a building fit for education in the 21st Century. A great deal of thought went into designing a building which would be an exciting learning environment for all. A stunning entrance leads to an impressive atrium—the heart of the Academy – which provides fantastic views of the Academy including the museum display area and its installations.

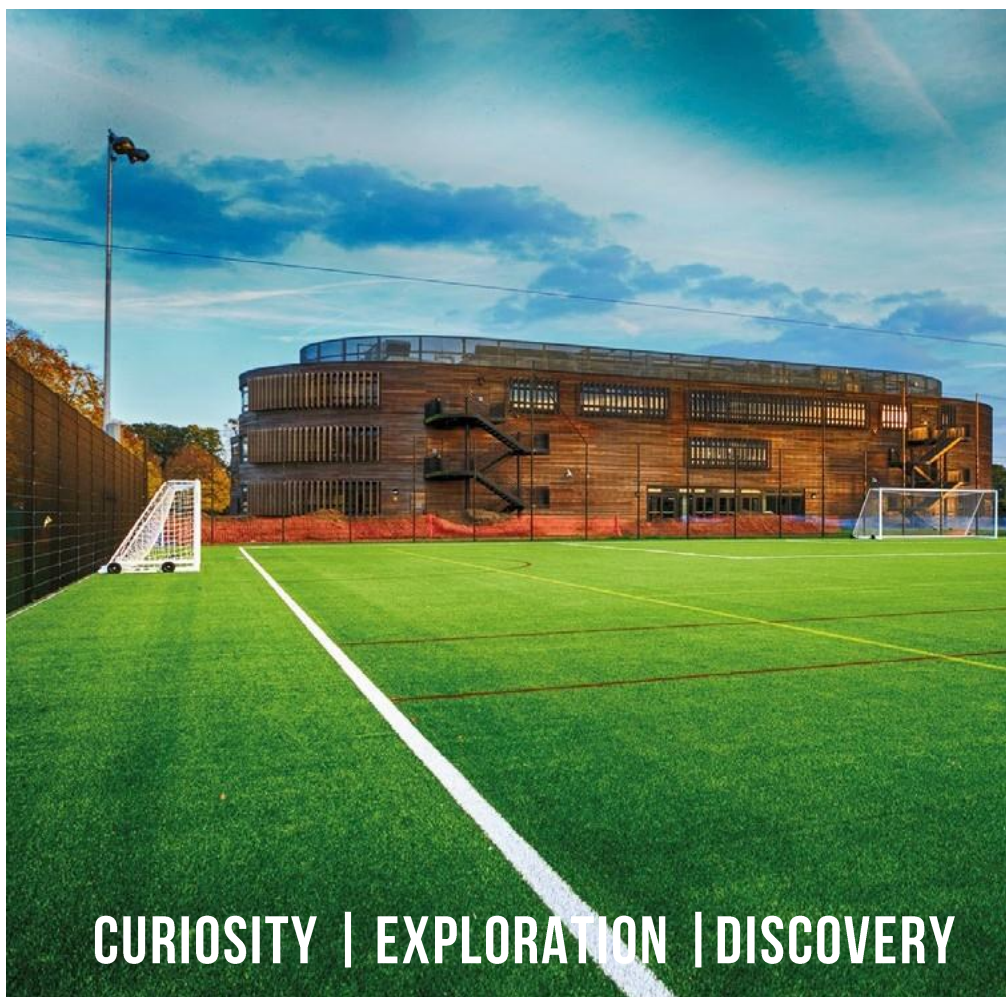
The open plan design means that from the West Wing Balcony you have an excellent view of the whole academy and its wide range of specialist classrooms and facilities, including the Science Pods and our ICT study areas. As a Science Specialist Academy, we have a vast range of scientific equipment and resources which enables us to deliver outstanding practical science which keeps our students constantly curious, always exploring and ever discovering new learning.

We have excellent sporting facilities with a FIFA certified 3G artificial pitch, large sports hall, several grass football pitches, external and internal cricket nets. Having our own Concept 2 rowing machines allows us to engage our students in our key rowing focus.

With a number of specialist Art classrooms and a Drama Theatre/Dance Studio with seating for 230 people, our Creative and Performing Arts faculty is able to keenly promote the 'Arts' in exciting lessons, across the curriculum and in public performances and clubs. Our students and staff are privileged to have a recording studio of professional quality which supports Music, Media and enrichment opportunities.

Our Design and Technology classrooms have an excellent range of catering equipment, sewing machines, wood and metal working machinery to ensure that all our students have an outstanding experience at the Academy.

Our wireless network works across the entire building and the teaching staff and learning support assistants have their own laptops to support outstanding teaching. Half of our classrooms are equipped with the latest touch-screen interactive whiteboards. Our large number of ICT suites and ICT study areas provides students with excellent study and independent learning resources.



CURIOSITY | EXPLORATION | DISCOVERY



CURIOSITY | EXPLORATION | DISCOVERY

WHAT WE DO FOR STUDENTS THAT REQUIRE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

At the Academy we believe all students should have equal access to learning and the curriculum in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 and The Children and Families Act 2014. We have a range of facilities and resources such as our large team of Learning Support Assistants who help students with special needs within the classroom as well as outside the classroom on offsite activities.

Our HRB (Hearing Resource Base) provides specialist support for students with a hearing impairment and EHCP Plan with hearing impairment as the primary need. Individual programs are developed, to encourage students to reach their potential both academically and pastorally and to gain independence in their lives. Our students engage as fully as possible in all aspects of academy life.



CURIOSITY | EXPLORATION | DISCOVERY

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

Visit our website www.langleyacademy.org to find the most current and detailed information on other aspects of life at the Academy. Under the Parents and Students sections on the website you will find lots of useful information including:



Restaurant—menus, opening times, how students pay, free school meals etc.



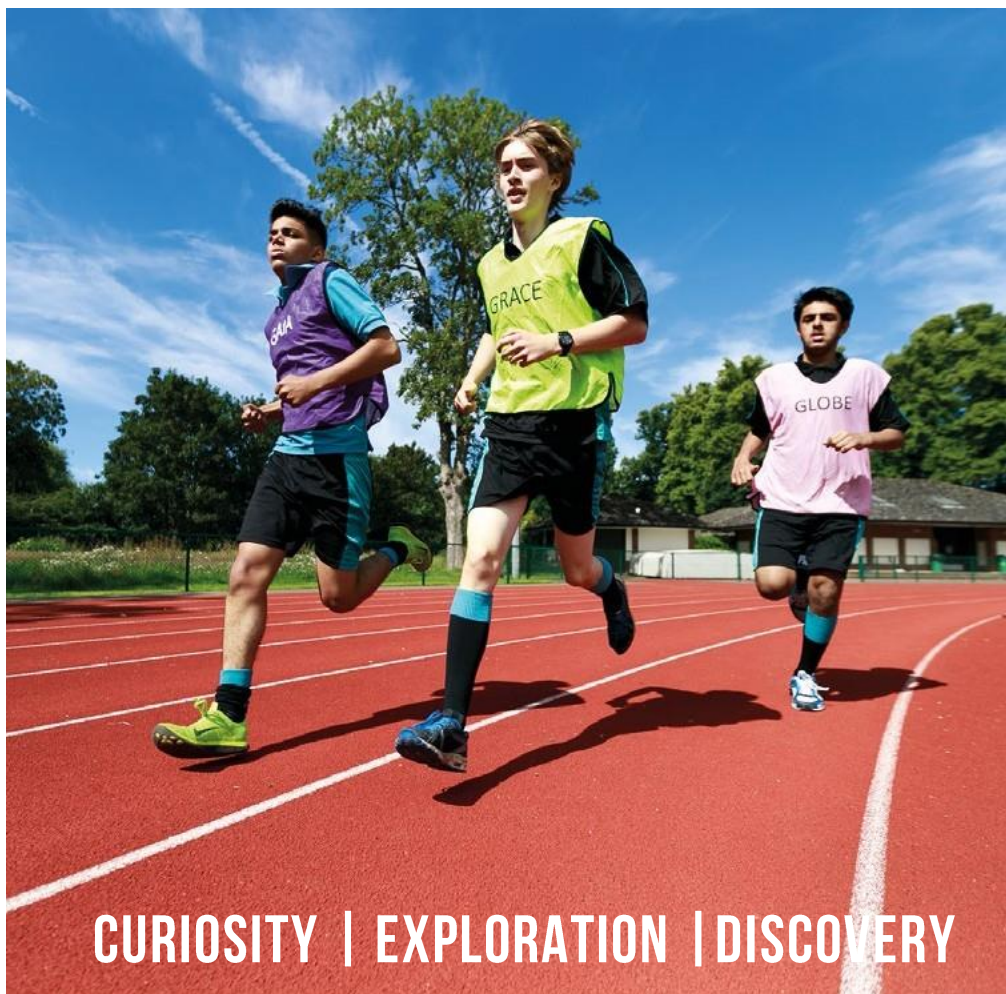
Uniform—Online Uniform Shop



Admissions—our policy, appeal process and timetable etc.



OFSTED—our recent reports and survey links Academy dates, timing of lessons and breaks during the day



CURIOSITY | EXPLORATION | DISCOVERY

Langley Road, Langley
Berkshire, SL3 7EF

Phone: 01753 214440

Fax: 01753 596321

Email: info@langleyacademy.org

www.langleyacademy.org

Twitter: @LangleyAcademy