

2024 Prospectus

Driffield School
& Sixth Form



Believe • Achieve



Welcome to Drifffield School & Sixth Form



I joined Drifffield School's leadership team in 2018 and instantly felt a strong connection with the school and its community. I am immensely proud to be a part of Drifffield School and was delighted to be appointed as Headteacher in 2022. It is such an honour for me to be the Headteacher leading the school through the next stage of its exciting journey and I feel very lucky to lead a school with such amazing staff and students.

At Drifffield School and Sixth Form, we are extremely passionate about improving the life chances of our young people and we want all of our students to leave us with the best possible outcomes, a wide range of memorable experiences and an abundance of positive memories.

We offer our students a broad and balanced curriculum that ensures they experience exciting opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom. The curriculum we deliver is knowledge-rich and aims to equip all of our students with the knowledge, skills and experiences that they need to be successful people and have better lives. This is underpinned by a culture that places a high value on literacy and vocabulary, which are both crucial to academic achievement, future learning and employment. We are ambitious for every student at our school and we want to share in their successes and to see them leave us, after seven years, able to fulfil their dreams and aspirations. We will do our utmost to help them succeed and we have high standards and expectations of all our students.

We recognise that choosing a school for your child is a crucial decision and we take our responsibilities very seriously when parents entrust their child's education and care to us. We will do everything we can to ensure that every individual child receives the care, support and guidance they need to flourish, both academically and personally.

We very much hope that the information in this prospectus gives you a flavour of what we have to offer. More details are available on the school website and through regular newsletters and school publications.

Vicky Loftus
Headteacher

A background image showing two students in a science laboratory. They are wearing safety goggles and dark lab coats over school uniforms. The student on the left is looking down at something, while the student on the right is looking towards the camera. In the background, there is a poster titled 'Human Genome Project' and another one that says 'SCIENCE' and 'THE EARTH IS NOT FLAT'.

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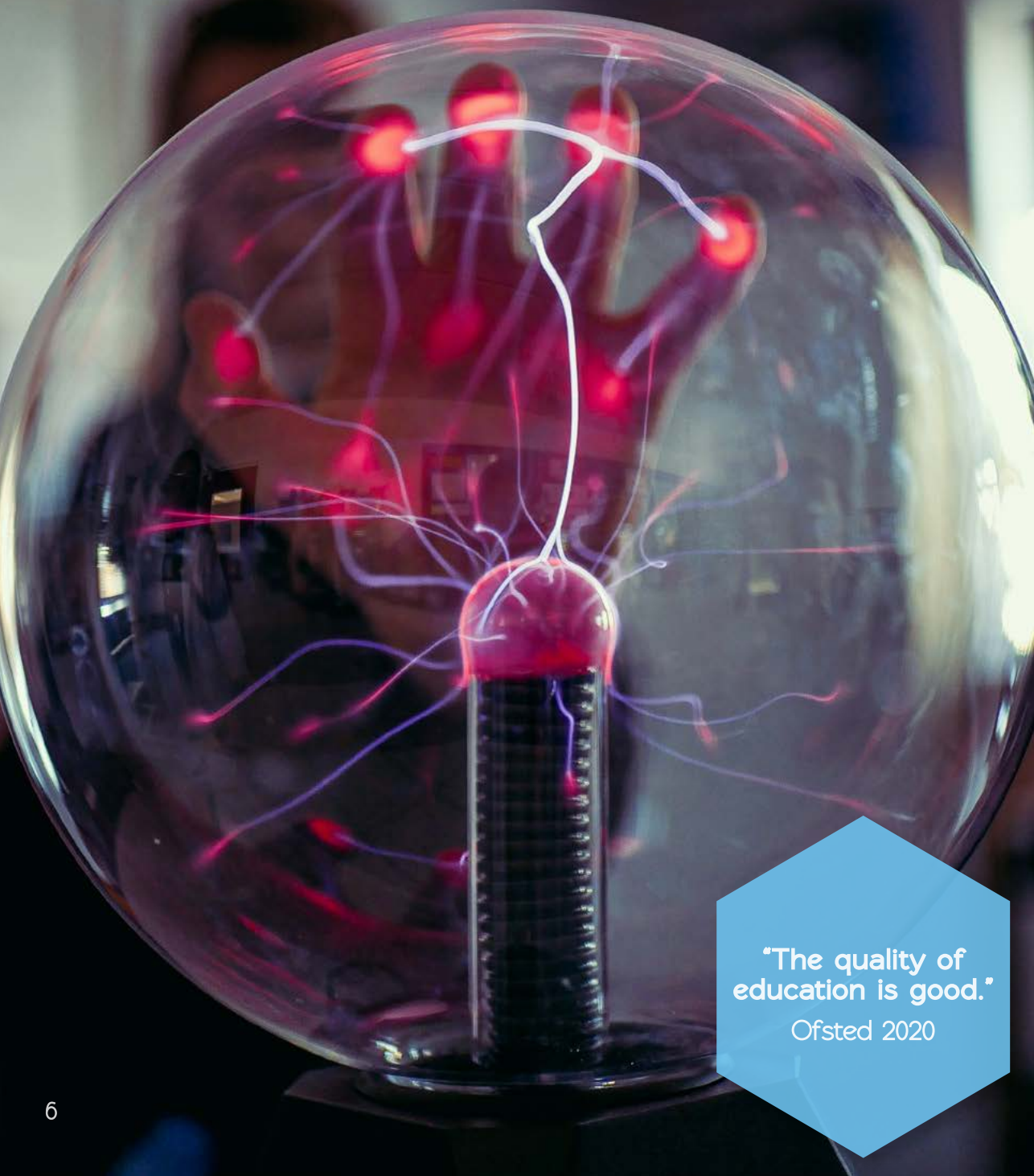
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Teaching & Learning



**"The quality of
education is good."**

Ofsted 2020

Our ambitious curriculum is designed to ensure that all students are able to thrive, both academically and personally, at Driffield School and Sixth Form. The curriculum we deliver is knowledge-rich and aims to equip all of our students with the knowledge, skills and experiences that they need to be successful people and have better lives. This is underpinned by a culture that places a high value on literacy and vocabulary, which are both crucial to academic achievement, future learning and employment.

The five year curriculum is broad and balanced; we teach this in two key stages (Key Stage 3 in Years 7, 8 and 9 and Key Stage 4 in Years 10 and 11). The Key Stage 3 curriculum is carefully sequenced to ensure that students develop a substantial body of knowledge and skills that will support them in their subsequent learning and later life. Students will study the core subjects, English, maths and science, alongside a wide range of non-core subjects.

At Driffield School and Sixth Form, we strongly believe that students should study a balanced curriculum that places equal importance on moral, spiritual, emotional and physical development. Our curriculum is therefore complemented by our personal development and form time programme. All students at Key Stage 3 study an hour of APEX (Achieving Personal Excellence) per week and these lessons focus on aspects of personal, social, health and economic education. These lessons develop students' personal development alongside the importance of British values. APEX is designed to develop our students into thoughtful, responsible and informed members of the community who are prepared for life beyond school.

Our Key Stage 4 curriculum is ambitious for all learners. At the end of Key Stage 3, students will study four option subjects in addition to their core curriculum of English, maths and science and we offer a wide range of subjects for all learners to study, including a number of vocational GCSE options. The majority of our students will follow the English Baccalaureate pathway where they will study a language, a humanity and two other subjects in addition to their core curriculum.

High quality teaching and learning is at the heart of any successful curriculum and students will experience lessons that are motivating, purposeful and challenging. Our specialist teachers have high expectations of all students; we aim to encourage proactive thinking in all lessons and expect all students to have high aspirations.

GCSE Results

Despite the disruption and challenges faced earlier in their school career, the students at Driffield School and Sixth Form had cause for celebration with their GCSE results in 2023.

Our Basics measures continue to be in line with national averages. Two thirds of students achieved at least a standard pass in both English and maths and two fifths achieved a strong pass in both. The percentage of students achieving at least a grade 4 is above the national average in all core subjects (English, maths and science) with three quarters of students achieving this in maths compared to three fifths nationally. Results in humanities were strong with two thirds of students gaining a standard pass in either geography or history. Alongside the strong performance in the core subjects, our students excelled in the arts. Our music and drama departments both saw over a quarter of students achieving the highest grades of 7, 8 or 9 and in art and photography, nearly 9 out of 10 students achieved a standard pass, well above the national average.

In addition to the excellent outcomes achieved by our students in GCSE courses, students also enjoyed success in our vocational subjects. Two thirds of students achieved a Level 2 Pass or higher in engineering, health and social care and sports studies, with over a third of students achieving a Level 2 Merit in these subjects.

We are incredibly proud of every one of our Year 11 students and our GCSE results continue to give Driffield School & Sixth Form a great platform for further success in the coming years.

"Pupils are well prepared for their next steps in education or employment."

Ofsted 2020

Uniform

For specific information about the school uniform and local stockists, please visit our school website.



Pastoral Care & House System

Students need to feel part of a community, so high-quality pastoral care and support is our priority. Our house system comprises of four houses to enable students to feel part of a small and distinct group, along with being a member of the wider school community.



"The school offers a wide range of opportunities for personal development within lessons."

Ofsted 2020

The house system is designed to encourage students to achieve their best at all times and provides key opportunities to celebrate student success.

Each house comprises of a Head of House and a team of tutors who will deliver aspects of our Personal Development Programme during a daily tutor time period. Students are allocated to a tutor group with students of their own year group, enabling the effective delivery of age-appropriate materials.

To complement this, each year group is overseen by a Head of Year to ensure swift and efficient support and communication for students within a specific year group.

The house teams organise a wide range of events to promote community spirit and healthy competition between the houses. This might include sporting activities, fundraising events and departmental competitions.



Careers Education

We are committed to providing high-quality and impartial careers advice to ensure that all of our students are able to make the right choices about their future. Our careers programme runs from Year 7 through to Year 11 and then continues in the Sixth Form. This programme includes a mapped Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) programme that is embedded into all curriculum subjects and Achieving Personal Excellence (APEX), as well as employer talks, career fairs, motivational speakers and visits to colleges and universities. The programme is designed to inspire and motivate students to fulfil their potential by exploring different fields of work, identifying where their interests lie and equipping them to make informed choices about their future career route, based on up-to-date knowledge of the employment market.

Employability Scheme

We have an Industry Mentoring Scheme to help equip our learners with the skills they need for the workplace. The initiative is already seeing students in Year 12 and Year 13 being paired up with representatives from local businesses who will share their skills, knowledge and experience to give the students the best possible preparation for the working world. One-to-one support is offered in areas such as CV building, university and job applications, work experience placements and day-to-day skills such as time management and organisation. The scheme helps bridge the gap between education and employment, as well as giving local businesses the opportunity to attract local talent to future job roles.

Advice and Guidance

CEIAG is a high priority at Driffield School & Sixth Form. The programme (which begins in Year 7) raises aspirations, challenges stereotypes and actively promotes equality and diversity. The information supports their learning and their future decisions, in particular for future option choices and how certain subjects are required for specific careers. Our Year 9 students have access to U-Explore and the START Profile, online services that provide tailored careers information. Through these services, we encourage them to investigate different career choices and the required qualifications.

APEX Lessons

The Achieving Personal Excellence (APEX) curriculum has a dedicated six-week unit to support our students with the knowledge and understanding of all career pathways. All students are signed up to the START profile platform, which allows students to explore pathways based on interest, skills and qualifications.



"For each subject,
leaders have thought
carefully about the
curriculum so that
pupils' knowledge
builds up over time"

Ofsted 2020

12 ICT suites and site wide wi-fi

A variety of hot & cold meal options available daily

Modern classroom facilities

Acres of fields, courts & pitches

Facilities

Our facilities have been designed to ensure that our students are able to work in a purposeful, well-resourced environment that promotes learning.

There has been a significant investment in Driffield School & Sixth Form; we are proud of our purpose-built Art & Technology Building (which was custom-made to our exact requirements) and there has been a recently-completed one million pound investment to replace the roof and all windows in our North and West buildings.

We have outstanding facilities on site, including the Sports Centre (which is solely for student use during the school day). Furthermore, our state-of-the-art Performing Arts block allows students to perform in an atmospheric environment to enhance their learning experience.

The school also boasts a number of well-equipped computer suites, with access to desktop computers and also iPads that have access to Wi-Fi across the site.

Additionally, a six-figure sum has been invested in redeveloping the Sixth Form Centre to create a new ICT study-suite, sixth form cafe and social area.

Wider Opportunities & Extra-Curricular Activities

We are proud of the wide range of enrichment opportunities our students enjoy and we encourage all of them to take part in activities outside of their timetabled lessons. We are passionate about providing memorable experiences outside of the classroom that will support students' academic success and their personal development.

At Driffeld School & Sixth Form, our extra-curricular music provision is exciting, vibrant and very well attended. The extra-curricular music provision enables students to perform in concerts and events locally and around Europe. The Big Ensemble is open to all instrumentalists and this is the principal ensemble that incorporates a concert band, rock band, percussionists and vocalists. Since 2014, our European music tours have directly benefitted student confidence, independence and maturity in performing music, with our most recent trip visiting Barcelona during May half term 2023.

The music department offers an array of music ensembles for our students to take part in at lunchtimes and after school. These also include the brass and jazz band. The brass band is a student-led band and they play at significant events in the year such as Remembrance Sunday and Christmas concerts.



Each year, we are very proud of the remarkable school productions that showcase the talent of a large number of Drifffield School & Sixth Form students.

Our most recent productions include Oliver!, Grease, We Will Rock You, Billy Elliot and Rock of Ages. Students and staff contribute to these productions in a variety of ways including acting, singing, set design, costume design and stage make up. This helps to build team work and a real sense of community spirit.

The PE department offer a diverse range of sporting activities for students. Some of which are: rugby, hockey, netball, football, basketball, table tennis, cricket, athletics and badminton. There are also lots of other extra-curricular activities that ensure we cater for all student interests. These include: reading, musical theatre, chess, lego and art clubs. All students also have access to our well-resourced library and ebooks through our electronic loan system.



"Pupils benefit from a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities"

Ofsted 2020

Trips & Visits

Driffield School & Sixth Form offers a wide range of local, national and international educational visits which aim to support the curriculum, as well as broaden students' experiences and learning beyond the classroom.

"Staff ensure that all pupils feel welcome within the school."

Ofsted 2020

Many departments offer exciting trips in order to enhance their curriculum across Years 7 to 13. Some of these include biology fieldwork, geography fieldwork, the English curriculum visit to Flamborough lighthouse, the history castle study at Helmsley and a range of theatre visits.

One of our most popular and longstanding trips, running each year, is the ski trip to Italy. This year we are going to Folgarida in Northern Italy, which boasts an extensive ski area, set in the heart of the breathtaking scenery of the Dolomites, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Our music tours have travelled across Europe since 2014, showcasing their music skills at locations such as Salzburg in Austria, Maastricht in Holland, Lake Garda in Italy and Moselle in Germany.

Geography Field Trips



London Politics Trip



Spiers Bank House



The geography department also run several trips abroad to locations such as Italy and Iceland. The sixth form geography students all enjoy an overseas residential visit which, in previous years, has seen them climbing the slopes of Mount Vesuvius in Naples, Italy, or relaxing in the Blue Lagoon and adventuring on glaciers in Iceland. The visit not only builds on learning, but enables the students to engage in enriching experiences.

Driffild School & Sixth Form is also fortunate to have access to Spiers Bank House. Spiers is an ex-forestry commission house located near Pickering in the North Yorkshire Moors, which provides residential and cooking facilities. It is a fantastic resource which allows the development of students' outdoor experiences, as well as personal development.

Sport

At Driffield School & Sixth Form, we encourage all abilities to attend an extensive programme of extra-curricular activities and provide enrichment opportunities for all students. We have strong relationships with our local feeder schools and we host primary competitions for hockey, biathlon, swimming and orienteering. This aids transition to secondary and encourages lifelong participation.

Competitive Sport / Extra Curricular

In addition to the main curriculum, we have a range of extra-curricular clubs designed to not only encourage participation, but also stretch and challenge students of all abilities. Although the main aim is to gain maximum participation, we also take part in a variety of individual and team fixtures in friendly, local, regional and national competitions. In the last academic year, we took part in over two hundred fixtures in a variety of activities, with successes in the Yorkshire boys' and girls' cricket championships, area football competitions, five-a-side football and many more.

Supporting Talent

Some students have achieved amazing success over a period of years due to their dedication and commitment, competing at national and county level in rugby, gymnastics, boxing, cricket, archery, ice hockey and athletics. Students who participate in competitive sport are well-supported at Driffield School & Sixth Form. We have been part of the Sky Sports Ambassador programme, receiving advice and support from GB stars including Nicola Minichiello (Bobsleigh) and Rachel Mackenzie (Thai boxing).

Leadership Opportunities

Leadership is a key element taught within all physical education activities. Within Key Stage 4, it plays a role in every lesson with the emphasis on student-led activities and different roles and responsibilities. The OCR National Sports Studies course provides leadership units that require planning, production and reviewing of sporting activities.

The Sports Leaders UK award is a fantastic opportunity for students to take personal leadership to a further level. It gives our students a chance to develop leadership skills, as they are able to support the running of primary sports activities and extra-curricular clubs.



Inter-house Competitions

At Driffeld School & Sixth Form, we have a long tradition of inter-house sports and, in addition to the PE lessons, all students take part in inter-house competitions in a variety of activities. These include the usual team sports but also dodgeball, softball and ultimate frisbee to ensure every student is able to be involved and keep the levels of participation and enjoyment as high as possible in a fun, competitive environment.

At the end of the school year, we hold the House Sports Day, which is a culmination of all of the competitions throughout the year and a chance to bring the students together as one, behind their house banners, to compete for the title of overall House Champions.

Inclusion Services

The primary aim of our inclusion service is to work in partnership with students, parents and staff to facilitate personalised programmes of support and create an enjoyable and successful educational experience for all.



The inclusion team work closely with pastoral teams to ensure that the needs of every child are met and they feel supported both pastorally and academically. Student progress is regularly reviewed in order to put additional support in place where appropriate and ensure that all students are able to fulfil their full potential.

We have specialist staff who are able to provide support for students who are experiencing social, emotional or behaviour issues and they work alongside a wide range of professional agencies outside of school, including the Youth and Family Support Service, MIND and CAMHS.

We also have trained first aiders who support students with any first aid requirements and, in conjunction with the school nurse, can provide support for ongoing medical conditions.

Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

At Driffield School & Sixth Form, our aim is for all students and staff to enjoy learning, experience success and to develop their full potential.

We have an inclusive approach where all students are valued and included in all aspects of school life.

Students with additional needs have access to a range of interventions which offer support across the four broad areas of need: cognition and learning, communication and interaction, social, emotional and mental health and sensory and physical.

The SEND team works closely with the curriculum and pastoral teams within school, an extensive range of professional agencies and with parents/carers.

We adopt and promote a student-centred approach in supporting students with additional needs to prepare for their transition to adulthood and to achieve their aspirations.

For more information about how students with SEND are supported at Driffield School & Sixth Form, please see the school's SEND information report on the school website.

"Pupils are happy at the school and say that it feels safe."

- Ofsted 2020

Sixth Form

Darren Andrews

Head of Sixth Form



Our primary aim is to ensure that every post 16 student at Driffield School & Sixth Form achieves the best possible results in order to access the future of their choice. With fantastic results across all subjects, our 2023 cohort of Year 13 students have progressed onto a range of tremendous destinations. 91% of university applicants reached their first choice of institution, well above the national average of 79%, with 100% of offer holders for medicine and veterinary medicine accessing their chosen destination. 30% of our university applicants have progressed onto courses at Russell Group universities, with the national average this year being approximately 12%. In addition, the brilliant results achieved have seen a growing number of students pursuing apprenticeships both locally and nationally.





We have high aspirations for our students and provide them not only with the opportunity to excel academically, but also allow them the space to develop personally. Our superb Student Union, which is organised and managed by the students, serves to define the culture of our Sixth Form as a student-centred environment striving for outstanding outcomes.

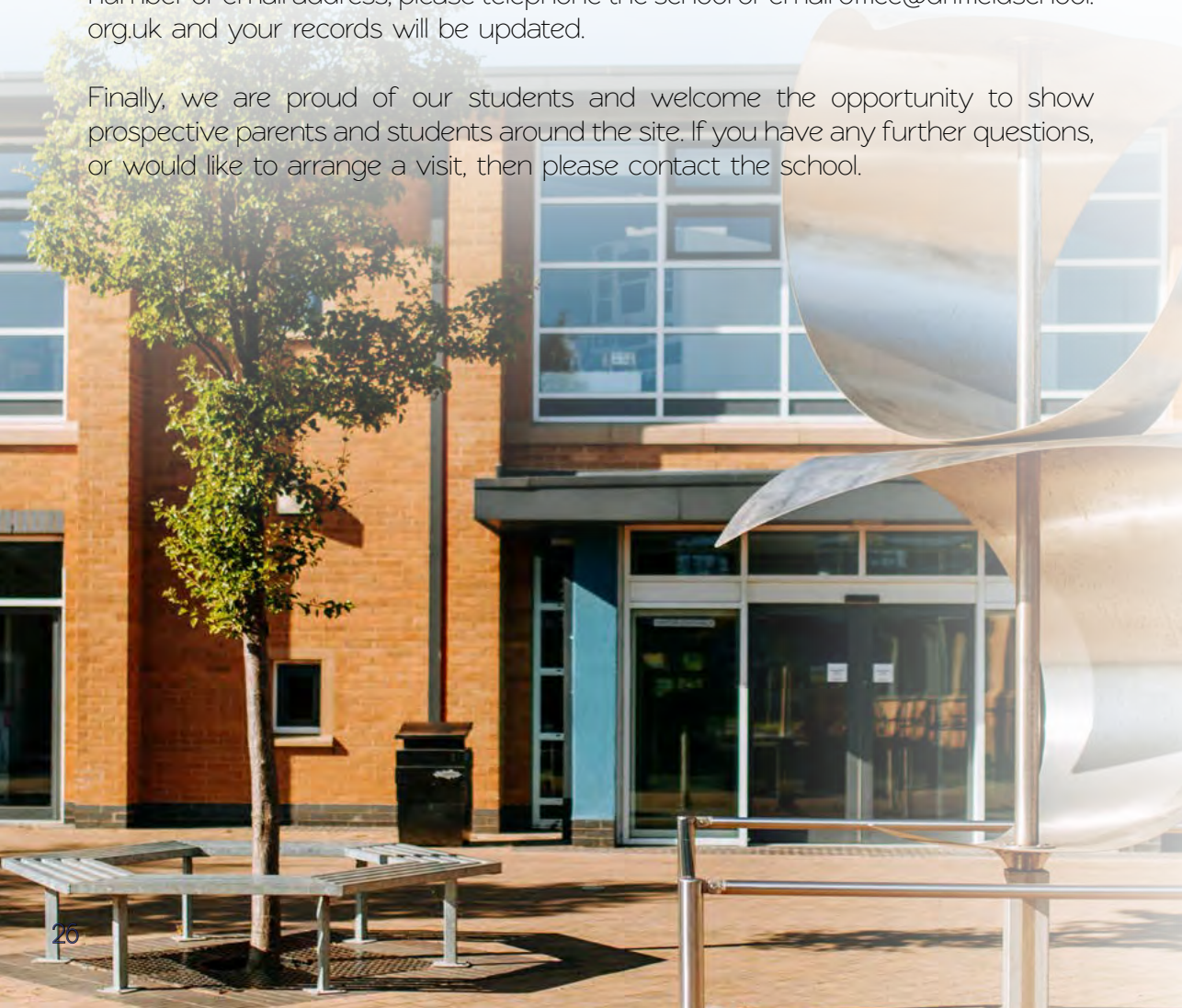
Students receive excellent teaching and support from staff who are always prepared to go the extra mile for their classes. This encourages students to develop into independent learners, ready to face the challenges of life after sixth form. We are dedicated to giving students the best academic support and most diverse range of opportunities possible. This ensures that they will look back on their sixth form years as some of the most enjoyable in their lives.

Communication

We believe that regular communication with parents is essential to ensure you are fully informed of the academic progress and personal development of your child and that achievements are celebrated. Each student is placed with a form tutor who meets with their form each morning. Support is also provided by a Head of Year and parents are encouraged to contact the school through their child's Head of Year.

A range of methods are used to communicate with parents, including parents' evenings, progress reports, newsletters and electronic forms of communication including email, the school website (www.driffieldschool.net), Twitter (@driffieldsch) and Facebook (@driffieldschool). If at any time you need to update your mobile number or email address, please telephone the school or email office@driffieldschool.org.uk and your records will be updated.

Finally, we are proud of our students and welcome the opportunity to show prospective parents and students around the site. If you have any further questions, or would like to arrange a visit, then please contact the school.





Who we are:

The Education Alliance Multi-Academy Trust was established in 2015 so that South Hunsley School and Sixth Form College could support the setting up of Hunsley Primary School, the East Riding's first and only Free School. In February 2016, Malet Lambert School, an 11-16 school in Hull, joined the trust and the following year, Driffild School and Sixth Form joined as a sponsored academy. The Snaith School (an 11-16 school) joined us in April 2019 and North Cave CE Primary School in November 2019. Howden Junior School joined us in October 2022 followed by Wilberfoss CE Primary School in May 2023. Howden CE Infants School is the most recent school to join us in September 2023 with a further two schools expected to join us by the end of the calendar year.

In addition to our nine schools, the trust also operates Yorkshire Wolds Teacher Training, a SCITT based on the campus of South Hunsley School, which is training a new generation of primary and secondary teachers in the East Riding and Hull. YWTT was judged to be Outstanding in all areas by Ofsted in October 2019.

Our purpose:

We are here to make great schools and happier, stronger communities so that people have better lives.

How we do this:

The way we do this is by:

- Always doing what is right
- Trusting in each other and standing shoulder-to-shoulder
- Doing what we know makes the difference

Doing what is right means always acting with integrity, in the interests of others, and being honest, open and transparent.

The trust has a clear, transparent and effective governance framework. Further information regarding the Members, Trustees and Governing Bodies can be found on the Trust website, alongside our Governance Framework and Scheme of Delegation.



DRIFFIELD
SCHOOL
& SIXTH FORM

Believe • Achieve

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