



Morecambe Bay Academy

Belong | Believe | Achieve

Welcome to Morecambe Bay Academy

From the Bay to Beyond

"Welcome to Morecambe Bay Academy.

Starting at secondary school is a special and exciting time. This prospectus gives you a flavour of school life in our Academy and we also urge you to come and take a tour to see for yourselves the wonderful opportunities that are available here to help your child grow and develop.

Morecambe Bay Academy has a long, rich heritage and has been at the heart of the local community since 1919. We very much welcome you to become a part of that.

We are also a member of the larger Bay Learning Trust, so we continue to benefit from investment and development to provide the best learning environment for your child. Several million pounds have been recently invested in our school buildings, windows and IT infrastructure. We are also proud of our new Art and Music block, as well as the newly renovated science laboratories. These are wonderful spaces that have been created for your child to encounter and discover new learning.

As Principal, I am also proud of the work that staff have undertaken to improve standards in our school and encourage you to experience the positive changes that we are making.

You can then feel confident that Morecambe Bay Academy is the place where all children are well cared for and supported to achieve to the very best of their ability."

Gavin Gomersall, Principal

Exciting time

We understand that moving from primary to secondary school is a big step. We also know that your child may be feeling a little nervous too, but you do not need to worry. Your child will be supported every step along the way and there will be staff on hand to answer any questions that you may have.

High-quality, personalised care and support are at the heart of what we do here at Morecambe Bay Academy because we believe that this is fundamental to your child's success and enjoyment. We constantly strive to enhance the quality of education that we provide and invite you to come and see first-hand the quality of teaching and learning that happens here on an everyday basis.

Inquisitive, independent learners

We have high expectations in the Academy and our aim is to move students towards becoming inquisitive, independent learners. Through time spent with us, living through the values of our school, your child will be ready to move on to their next stage of education or training with success and confidence.

Our core values – Belong, Believe, Achieve – underpin everything that we do.

Joining our school

Pastoral Team

We have a strong, pro-active Pastoral Team that focus on developing good relationships and provide support to all our students.

Each year group has a dedicated Head of Year. Our Pastoral Team also work with a number of external agencies to ensure that all of our students are able to access the right support when they need it.

Transition

Our Transition Programme begins when students are in Year 5 and primary schools come in to visit us. We also hold an annual open evening during the September of Year 6 so they can learn a little more about us.

Transition Day itself is in July of Year 6. We'll also try to find out as much as we can from each primary school to ease transition. Students will spend a day with us, meet their Form Tutor and sample lessons. There is also a Transition Evening for parents held at this time.

Making friends before you join

During the summer holidays, we take students on an outdoor adventure. They will take part in activities such as kayaking and ghyll scrambling. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to make new friends!

Role of the Form Tutor

Each student arriving at Morecambe Bay Academy will be allocated a Form Tutor.

First point of contact

The Form Tutor is both the student's and the parents' first point of contact at school. Students meet with their tutor on a daily basis at the start of each school day for form time. This shared time with their Form Tutor is an important part of the day. Time is well spent, setting the tone for the day's outcomes. It also allows tutors to identify any immediate issues or problems before the school day has begun. This also helps students to make a successful transition from home to school.

Form Tutors are privileged to support your son / daughter as they grow during their time spent at Morecambe Bay Academy.

Growing, learning and developing into young adults over the next five years

Inquisitive, independent learners

English

A love of all things English

At Morecambe Bay Academy, we encourage our students to foster a love of all things English, whilst broadening and enriching their minds and hearts.

Language-based careers

Through English Language, we seek to provide students with the language capacity to navigate and succeed in courses of their own choosing, as well as inspiring those students who wish to pursue more language-based careers, such as writing and journalism.

English Literature

Through English Literature, we seek to develop students' ability to think deeply about humanity and to discover the riches of their Literary Heritage from Shakespeare to Simon Armitage. There is equal opportunity to access a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts, exploring them through practical, imaginative and analytical approaches.

Students also gain the opportunity to develop their own emotional responses and empathy through the study of texts through time.

Reading runs through everyday life at our school

We are passionate about books. This love of reading is shared from the moment a student steps through the door. To get students enthusiastic about reading at Morecambe Bay Academy, we also gift a book on Transition Day. This book forms the basis of the first couple of weeks of English lessons and is sure to make students enjoy their first term with us.

The Lawther Library

Our library is an exciting space for students to delve into all types of books and genres and is open before, during and after school. Students can come into the library to read, work on the PC or finish their homework. We also participate in Bookbuzz – a reading programme from BookTrust – and enjoy regular library lessons.

Reading for Pleasure

As part of our school day, all students enjoy dedicated 'Reading for Pleasure' time. As part of the Bay Learning Trust family of schools we use the reading canon – more details can be found on the school website.

Enabling our students to become communicators, readers, writers and thinkers

Maths and Science:

we will help you become good communicators
and problem-solvers; mathematicians, scientists,
engineers, rocket scientists...and lots more

Mathematics

Mathematical skills are needed for all kinds of careers. We work with every student to help progress numeracy and communication skills, as well as develop problem-solving skills, so that everyone achieves to the best of their ability.

Beauty and elegance

Students are also introduced to more abstract mathematical ideas and concepts which showcase the beauty and elegance of this subject. Some students will continue to pursue these ideas into Sixth Form and beyond.

Opening the door to your career

Good mathematical grounding opens the doors for all sorts of careers. Whether you decide to continue with Sixth Form and beyond, become an apprentice or an employee, or even start your own business, mathematics will open all kinds of doors for you. Every entrepreneur, mathematician, scientist, accountant, manager, banker, engineer and rocket scientist started somewhere...

Science

We aim to promote a passion for science and its importance and relevance in the 21st Century.

Problem-solving citizens

Our goal is to create problem-solving citizens by engaging students' natural curiosity. We want our students to work collaboratively, think independently and be resilient, methodical and enthusiastic learners that are motivated to question, explore, analyse, discuss and investigate scientifically.

Beyond the classroom

Of course, science has a practical aspect and we build skills in the laboratory and explore the application of science in the real world. Beyond the classroom we will create opportunities for students to take part in STEM challenges, CSI Day and activities in National Science Week.



**Working collaboratively,
thinking independently:**
*becoming problem-solving
citizens of the world*

Humanities:

the study of where we are, and how we got here

Geography

The environment has emerged in recent years as one of the most important priorities for society. As a subject Geography links to the Arts and the Sciences, and is highly flexible in terms of what it can be combined with.

From Blackpool to Barcelona

Students will also be provided with opportunities to visit Happy Mount Park in Year 7, Blackpool Zoo in Year 8 and the Lakes in Year 9. At GCSE and A Level students will additionally undertake two fieldwork study experiences, lasting four days each. There is also the opportunity to experience overseas trips such as Barcelona.

History

In order to understand the present you have to fully understand the past.

Fearless explorers of the past

People who study History investigate past politics, societies, cultures, languages, health, art, education, money and conflicts, and look at how things have developed over time and connect the dots to understand how we got where we are today.

From PR to YouTube

History may be about the past, but there are plenty of careers in history that you can pursue today. There is a vast array of careers for historians in the legal, media, civil service and education professions. For example, the CEO of YouTube, Susan Wojcicki, is a History graduate.

**Fearless explorers
of the past and
the land we live on**

Sporting excellence

Physical Education

The vision of the Physical Education Department is to give all students a positive experience which engages, inspires and challenges them to achieve high academic success and personal development in a safe and enjoyable environment.

Students are taught a broad range of activities through a balanced curriculum designed to develop a variety of physical, social and mental skills.

Activities may include:

- Invasion games: Rugby, Netball, Football, Handball, Basketball, Hockey.
- Aesthetics: Gymnastics, Dance, Trampolining.
- Net / wall games: Badminton, Table-Tennis, Tennis.
- Athletics.
- Multi-skills.
- Health Related Fitness.
- Striking & Fielding: Cricket, Rounders, Softball, Longball.
- Outdoor Education.

Extra-curricular opportunities

There are lots of opportunities for students to compete at a range of levels from participation to elite. Clubs are well attended and teams enjoy success in District, County and National competitions. We currently have students who are District Champions, representing Academy, County and National teams.

Sports careers

A large number of students also choose to develop their understanding of sport further by following one of the exam pathways. Many students progress into careers in coaching, teaching, personal training and the sports industry.

“My favourite things about PE are working with friends, being outside and improving my fitness.” Thomas (Year 7)

“PE is my favourite lesson. I’ve enjoyed learning lots of new sports and representing MBA at lots of fixtures.” Sienna (Year 7)

**Promoting physical,
social and mental skills**

Art, Drama and Music

Art, Ceramics and Photography

Students enjoy learning in specialist rooms using a range of materials, techniques and processes. There is an emphasis on using a wide range of media and solving problems through experimentation.

From Manchester to Paris

We offer gallery and exhibition trips to Manchester and Liverpool for our GCSE students as well as artists coming in to visit the school. Sixth form students can also experience a yearly residential trip, maybe to London, Paris or Barcelona.

Leading to university

Students leaving the department have been highly successful gaining places on degree courses at many universities.



Creating an environment where students can be inspired, ambitious and strive for creative excellence

Drama

In Drama we study the work of a wide range of playwrights. Extra-curricular activities include trips to theatres and professional television studios, universities and theatre schools such as LIPA.

Careers

We offer an excellent grounding for going on to study Drama or Performing Arts at college or university. Students might wish to go into a job where it is useful to have had experience of Drama, or where they will need to use some of the skills developed during this course.

Music

We have a very exciting and practical Music course which gives all students the opportunity to take part in whole class practical activities, learning to play the ukulele, keyboard, drum kit and guitar. Students also develop band skills that can be used in large class activities or in smaller group activities.

Individual tuition

Students can opt to have individual tuition on the piano, drums, voice, saxophone, clarinet or guitar, and take part in extra-curricular activities including Guitar Group, Ukulele Group, KS3 or KS4 Band, Woodwind Group or Choir. Each year, students also have the opportunity to audition and take part in the yearly production.



Computing



The exciting world of technology

The world of technology is developing around us on a daily basis.

Abundance of jobs

The technology sector is one that has an abundance of jobs available which cater for a range of interests, such as cyber security, web design, social media marketing, game design, software engineering, network management and more.

Digital citizens

Through engaging content and a supportive environment, we look to develop the skills and understanding that will allow our students to use technology safely and confidently in the real world, building their digital literacy, helping them become good 'digital citizens' and preparing them for further study or technological job opportunities.

EGX / EuroGamer Expo

It doesn't just happen in the classroom either with students having the opportunity to enhance their programming skills or learn how to set up and manage different devices in extra-curricular clubs, while we also look to engage in fun and fascinating trips such as to the EGX / EuroGamer Expo.

Building digital literacy

Languages

French

We are dedicated to giving our students the chance to experience the impact of language learning, allowing them to cultivate a deeper cultural interest and understanding of other countries.

Confident and effective communicators and linguists

Our aim is to develop our students as confident and effective communicators and linguists who are enthusiastic to take advantage of the benefits and opportunities that learning a language will bring. Beyond the classroom, students will have the opportunity to visit Normandy and Paris on the Year 8 French trip.

A world of possibilities

Through their studies, there is a bright future and a world of possibilities in store for those enthused by the study of French – the international language of cooking, fashion, theatre, the visual arts, dance and architecture. French also opens up opportunities in places as far flung as Paris, Canada, Guadeloupe, South America and North Africa.



Helping students cultivate a deeper cultural interest and understanding of other countries

"I like learning about the different places and how to introduce yourself to people." Anwen (Year 7)

SEND

Supporting all students

The Learning Support Department works hard to support all our students to achieve their full potential and become happy, healthy, active participants within our inclusive community. We promote independent learning and self-help strategies to encourage our students to have high aspirations for their careers, relationships and life goals.

Support

Our highly skilled, friendly team provide daily check-ins, Literacy and Numeracy group interventions, in-class support, 1:1 communication support, social skills, exam support, break and lunch-time provision and homework clubs.

Specialist staff

We liaise with specialist staff to provide equipment and strategies for supporting students with SEND in school and work with teachers, heads of years, leadership, external agencies, families and, most importantly, students to ensure that their experience at Morecambe Bay Academy is as positive and successful as possible.



Life

Life lessons

In Life lessons our team of specialist teachers are committed to providing students with the knowledge and skills to live healthy, safe, productive, fulfilling, capable and responsible lives through core themes of health and wellbeing, relationships and living in the wider world.

Conflicting values and attitudes

Through the Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) topics, we aim to provide opportunities for students to reflect on and clarify their own values and attitudes.

Belief

Through the Religious Education topics, we aim to enable students to consider that life is not merely material life and to develop and communicate their own beliefs, values and attitudes while understanding the beliefs and teachings of believers. For those who want to examine belief more deeply they can choose RE GCSE as an options subject.

Philosophy of social justice

Our curriculum is built around the philosophy of social justice and covers Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural lessons and British Values. Our dedicated lessons form part of a whole school approach to supporting students to be safe, happy and prepared for life beyond school.

Homework Club

The Homework Club in the library is open to all years after school until 4pm.

**Living healthy, safe, fulfilling
and responsible lives**

Sixth Form

Wide range of subjects at Sixth Form

We have a wide range of subjects designed for students wishing to progress to higher education or employment. In previous years, around half of our students have gone on to university and the remainder have opted for apprenticeships, employment or further education at colleges.

We seek to offer personalised support for each individual student through our Careers Advisor, Mrs Louth, Form Tutors and the pastoral lead for Sixth Form, Ms Fitzwilliam.

Enrichment programme and facilities

The enrichment programme is designed to offer opportunities and experiences beyond the curriculum which are essential for personal development, from learning about personal and social issues to mentoring sessions with employers.

In the Sixth Form, students can make use of the common room, its own school kitchen (breakfast, break time snacks and lunches are served), a library with IT capacity for 60 students and a further student study room equipped with computers.

Career goals and overcoming obstacles

Sixth Form life is based on providing the skills and support to enable students to make informed choices about their career goals and to help them overcome any obstacles which they may encounter.

Don't just take our word for it

"The staff at Morecambe Bay Academy Sixth Form have given me the motivation to do well in everything I do and now I have a real passion to do work and achieve as much as I can."

"Students are very friendly, polite and supportive of one another."

"Whether progress related or personal, there is always someone available to help with your problems."

The Bay and Beyond:

pathways to your future

Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance

Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance is a big part of a student's life at Morecambe Bay Academy. We believe that it is never too early to learn about future pathways and options available to you.

Careers programme

We have a fantastic careers programme that runs from Year 7 to 13. We work with lots of employers, universities, colleges and training providers too.

Work placement

Students get to experience the world of work by going on a week-long work placement to an employer of their choice. Recent feedback from employers has been so positive...

"A fantastic ambassador for MBA."

"I would happily give them a job right now."

"They have such a positive attitude and great work ethic."

Full-time Careers Advisor

We are very lucky to have a full-time Careers Advisor onsite to help guide and support students through those big transition periods in their school life.

Apprenticeships

For those students who wish to move on after Year 11 to do an apprenticeship or college course, there are plenty of courses at different levels available for everyone.

World of work: vocational subjects

The aim of Vocational is to give students an insight into the world of work, whether that be Business, Travel and Tourism or Health and Social Care. We want to develop enterprising and aspirational students.

We have had speakers from the NHS discussing career pathways in Health and Social Care. Students regularly visit the Care Sands Home to help the residents and give back to our local community. Enterprise Days are also organised throughout Key Stage 3. To enable students to visit different places throughout the UK, we organise trips as part of Travel too.

Career guidance interviews, CV and interview support, work experience and employer links



Vision and Values

Belong, Believe, Achieve

In our new Academy we are working together on our values. We want every member of our community to feel that they **belong** to the Academy and to each other. It is only from a secure sense of personal value and community that we can engage with the world around us.

We **believe** that change is possible and in the potential of every child/student. We encourage building self-confidence and belief in the best possible future.

And as a student becomes part of this journey within the learning community, they will go on to **achieve**, both personally and academically.



Morecambe Bay
Academy

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