



PROSPECTUS
2024-2

PART OF THE FAIRFAX MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST



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Excellence - We strive for the highest quality to ensure excellent outcomes and personal achievements.

WELCOME TO FAIRFAX

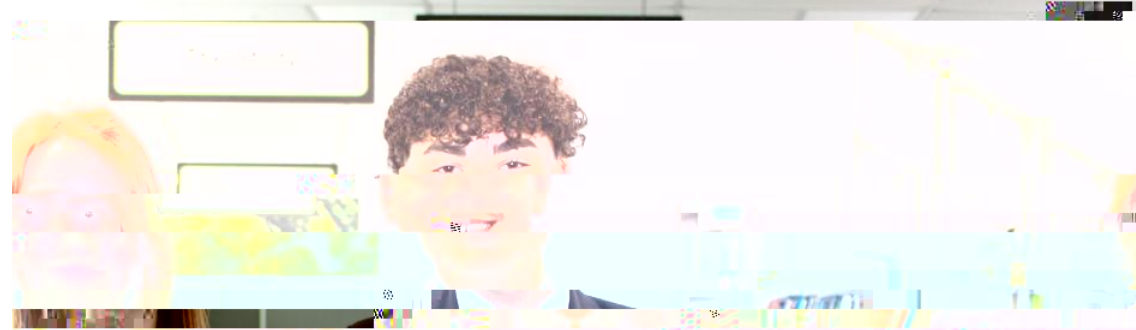


A very warm welcome to Fairfax. We are delighted you have expressed an interest in our Academy. As Principal at Fairfax, I am incredibly proud of our school community and our student achievements, and the pride they take in every aspect of school life. I am confident that the high standards we have in behaviour, uniform and respect for another, and the “exemplary and outstanding” personal development programme we offer as highlighted by Ofsted in May, will equip your child for a successful future.

“Pupils’ character is developed exceptionally well” (*Ofsted 2024*), and through a comprehensive academic and extra curricular curriculum, we prepare students well for their next steps in education. Through our established House system students develop creativity, resilience, comradeship and determination.

Our values of Ambition, Respect, Kindness and Safety (ARKS) ensure students thrive, develop friendships and are regularly rewarded for displaying these positive behaviours, and for contributing to our school and wider community.

Mr Sean Castle | Principal



Affiliations **Fai fa**

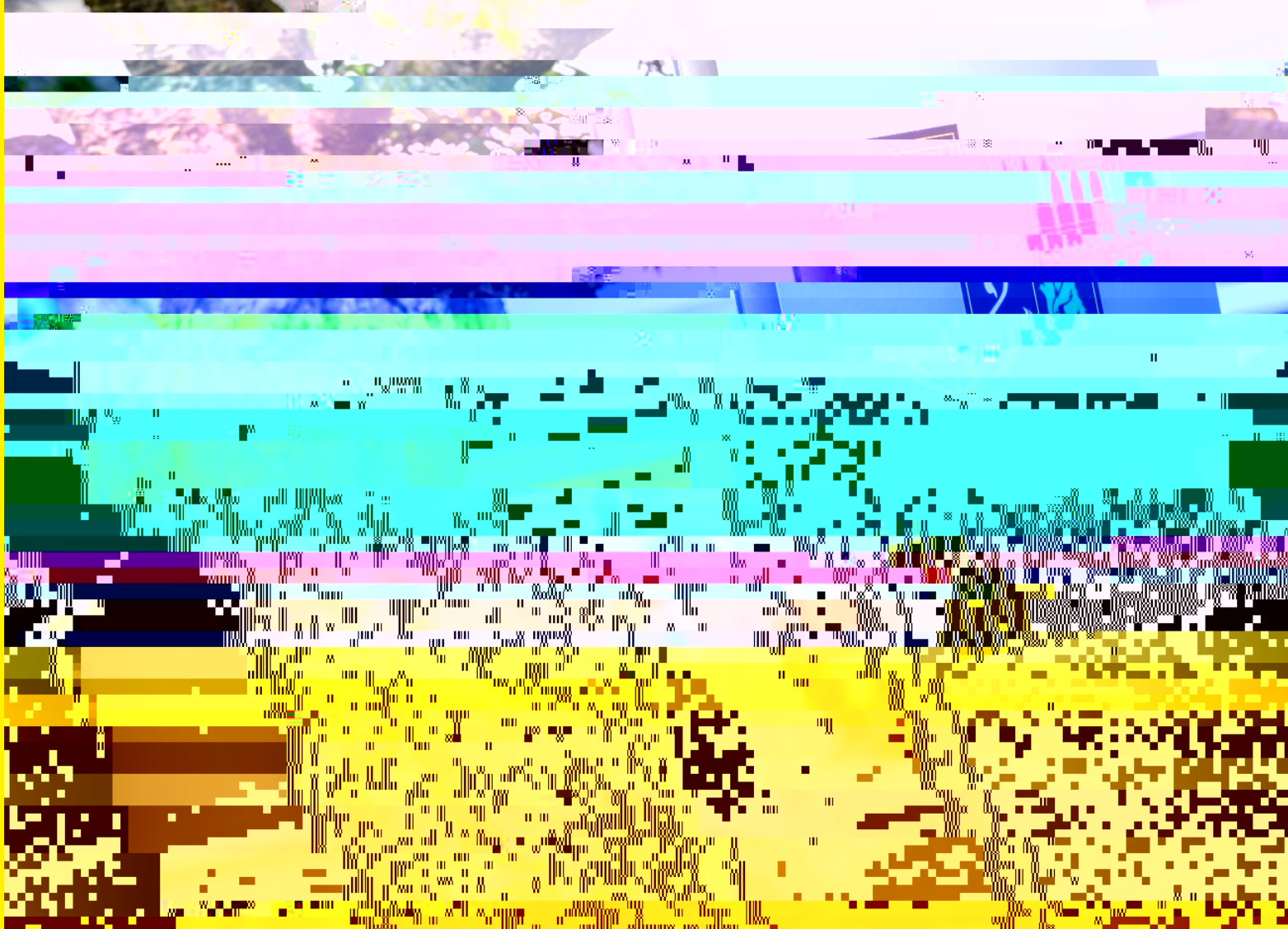
Fairfax is a community of 1500 students and 200 staff set in well maintained, extensive grounds on the edge of Sutton Coldfield. We encourage our students to fulfil their potential both academically and socially in order to maximize their opportunities in their adult lives.

All of our students have access to a broad curriculum, which is delivered with care and support by highly skilled teaching staff. We encourage our students to develop the skills they require to play an integral role in society and to become valuable and responsible citizens.

Fairfax prides itself on its fantastic House System which was established upon its opening in 1959. We feel that this tradition provides students with the essential foundation to develop leadership skills, loyalty and responsibility as well as giving them the opportunity to thrive.

All students are encouraged to take part in many different sporting and extra-curricular activities which helps to promote House spirit amongst the Fairfax community.

Our motto 'Sinceritas Laboris', there is dignity in labour, is at the heart of our ethos. At Fairfax we believe hard work pays off and our students demonstrate this every day!



Facilities

Fairfax is steeped in over 50 years of history and when the funds allow, our buildings are developed to provide the latest facilities for our students and staff. These developments over the years include:

- Purpose built Technology Suites
- Specialist teaching rooms
- Performing Arts Suite
- Library - Learning Resource Centre
- Outdoor Multi-Sporting Centre
- Outdoor Canopy area
- The Refectory and The Eatery - Dining facilities
- The Philpott Centre - a two-storey building housing specialist teaching



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At Fairfax, the well-being of each student is a primary focus and our vision is to enable all students to maximise their potential both academically and socially. The House System generates a sense of identity which helps students to develop leadership skills, loyalty, responsibility and healthy competition.

On admission, students are allocated to one of the four Houses:

- Coventry
- Stratford
- Kenilworth
- Warwick

Each is led by a Head of House, who together with their Assistant Head of House and Tutors, monitor, track and evaluate the whole-school involvement of their students. In



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We recognise the importance of post-16 education and pride ourselves on offering a flexible and personalised curriculum that challenges and supports all of our students.

Academic standards have increased year on year, with an extensive range of A-Level courses providing something for everyone and progression to first choice universities is high.

The Prefect System, House System, Learning Mentor Scheme as well as the Student Council, offer all of our sixth form students the opportunity to develop their character and self confidence by helping others and allows them to be seen as role models by younger students.

Sixth Form students have access to The Refectory during study periods, and study whilst enjoying refreshments. The Sixth Form Centre houses computer suites, study rooms, and an outdoor recreation area.

Sixth form students are given the unique opportunities to go on World Challenge adventures, through which they have recently been fortunate enough to visit Borneo and Africa.

Further details about our sixth form are available in our Sixth Form Prospectus.



Fairfax Education Community

At Fairfax we believe that all students have strengths, and by encouraging them to take part in varied activities it will help develop self-esteem and confidence, this in turn builds workplace and life skills.

Students are actively supported to become involved in all aspects of school life whether it is House competitions, extra-curricular activities, or community events and benefit from a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities, namely:

- Science Club
- Gardening Club
- Drama Club
- Dance Club
- Music Club
- Art Club
- Chess Club
- Football Training
- Sports Teams
- Choir and Orchestra
- Equalities Group

Students also have the opportunity to be part of the House Council and Academy Student Council. The House Council is run by our House Captains and supported by students from all year groups and Houses. The School Council is run by elected members of our school body. Their role is to debate whole school issues and inform decision making. Students are frequently consulted about Fairfax developments through questionnaires and the

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Fairfax is recognised as a world leader in this activity and has celebrated over 5000 Awards, including 700 Gold Awards. With its impressive history of success at Gold, Silver and Bronze levels, the Academy can justifiably claim its right to be acknowledged as one of the foremost International Institutions for promoting the scheme.

Students from Year 10 onwards are invited to take part in this fantastic opportunity which provides them with the chance to develop new interests through a non-competitive programme of voluntary activities which promote responsibility,

At Fairfax, we strive to establish and maintain positive, trusting relationships with each parent/carer and welcome all parents/carers to attend the following events in our calendar:

- Parents' Evenings
- Celebration Evening
- The Eisteddfod Evenings

Communication is important to us and we regularly keep in touch and inform parents/carers of important academy information and events through:

- In The Know - a bi-weekly update
- Regular e-mails and letters
- School Reports
- Fairfax Website
- Fairfax Academy Facebook and Twitter
- Coffee and Cake meetings with the Principal

Tutors and the teams based in the Student Support Centre are here to assist all parents/carers in ensuring that their children are not only enjoying school life, but are also on target for achieving their utmost potential in all subject areas. Furthermore, attendance is our foremost priority in ensuring high achievement for each student and we are committed to maximising the attendance of every student during their education at Fairfax. We work alongside the support of our parents/carers in ensuring that absences are kept to a minimum.



Families and children sometimes go through difficult and challenging times. For the vast majority of concerns we will work with you consensually to support you and your family to resolve or ease any issues.

Our first priority is your child's welfare and therefore there may be occasions when our concern about your child means that we have to consult other agencies even before we contact you. The procedures we follow have been laid down by the Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board. If you want to know more about this procedure, please speak to the Designated Senior Teacher.

If staff become aware of, or have a need to become involved in, situations where a child may be at risk of hurting themselves or others, or if the behaviour of a child seriously disrupts good order in the academy or causes damage

