



Taking applications
to join Year 7 in 2024

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

www.wixamsacademy.co.uk

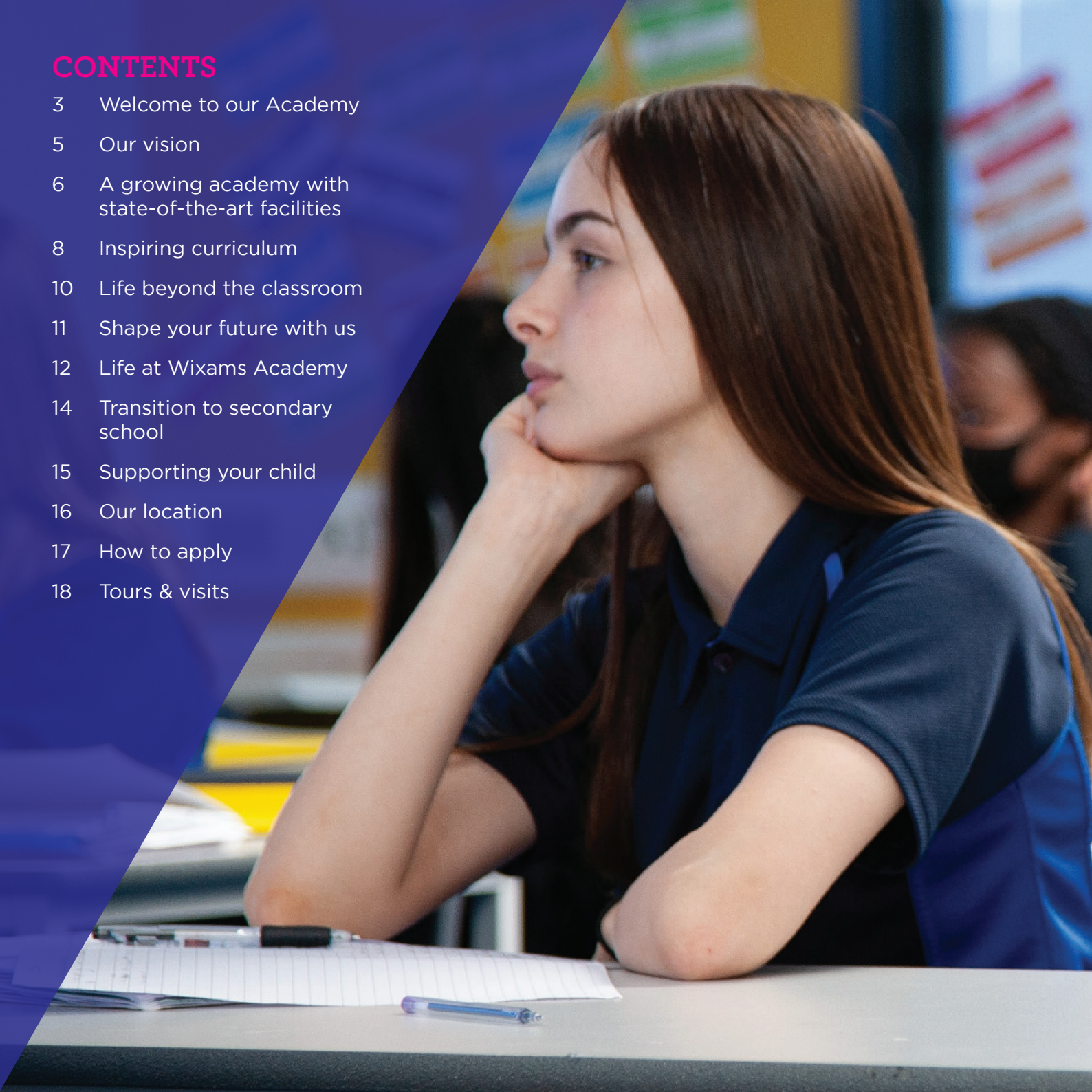
Serving the communities of:

**Wixams, Wilstead,
and surrounding areas**



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WELCOME TO OUR ACADEMY

Dear Parents, Carers and Future Students,

Welcome to our prospectus where you will gain a flavour of how we work and what makes Wixams such a special place.

We are delighted to welcome you to Wixams Academy. We set out to offer the very best for all our pupils, both academically and to develop them as individuals. Wixams Academy is a place where we celebrate both inclusivity and diversity. We are exceptionally proud of our academy, and will continually look to inspire ambition in our pupils to always work hard and be kind to each other.

It is an exciting time across the Academy, in 2024 we move into the second stage of our brand-new teaching block and sports facilities. This will enable us to build on the fantastic GCSE results pupils gained in 2023 and offer even more opportunities beyond the classroom through our rich and varied extra-curricular offer.

We are in the very heart of Wixams, and this is reflected in the community feel within our academy. We have an energetic and talented staff committed to the achievement of our young people. Everyone has a part to play at Wixams and everyone is listened to. If we or our team can help in any way then please do feel free to contact us.



Hywel Jones – CEO, BCAT and **Chris Stainsby** – Interim Principal, Wixams Academy

VISION

Our vision is to provide all of our students with a first-class education comparable with the very best schools nationally.

VALUES

Determination
Respect
Responsibility

Community
Honesty
Compassion

ACADEMIC SKILLS

Problem solving
Analysing
Evaluation
Oracy/Presenting

Organisation
Summarising
Group and
Independent
Work





OUR VISION

Our vision is to provide all of our students with a first-class education comparable with the very best schools nationally. We also aim to develop those skills and qualities in our students' character which, hand-in-hand with exam qualifications, will deliver success and resilience in later life.

When our students leave us, they will be fully qualified, motivated and personally equipped to succeed in life and contribute to a rapidly changing world.

OUR VALUES

- **Determination** - having the grit and resolve to never give up
- **Respect** - treating everyone as an equal
- **Responsibility** - owning our behaviour and actions
- **Community** - contributing to the Academy and wider community
- **Honesty** - being true to each other and ourselves
- **Compassion** - showing empathy for others

BEDFORD COLLEGE ACADEMIES TRUST (BCAT)

Wixams Academy forms part of Bedford College Academies Trust (BCAT).

BCAT was created to deliver high quality education and skills to meet the needs of the communities it serves. The Trust believes the region deserves outstanding schools and its commitment to Bedfordshire means that all of its resources are focused on driving forward education standards for the local community.

Find out more about Bedford College Academies Trust here:
www.bctrust.ac.uk

bcat

Bedford College
Academies Trust

A GROWING ACADEMY WITH STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES

Our vibrant Academy provides students with an inspirational learning environment to stimulate minds and fire the imagination.

Students enjoy the use of:

- **Specialist science laboratories**
- **Large open plan library**
- **Sports hall**
- **Multi-use games areas**
- **High-tech computing labs**
- **Playing fields**
- **Creative design studio**
- **Performing arts studio**

With new facilities in 2024 including:

- **Astroturf and floodlights**
- **Second 'Sports England' Sports Hall**
- **Art suit**
- **Music suite**
- **Technology suite**



VIRTUAL CAMPUS TOUR

Take a look around Wixams Academy by watching our virtual campus tour.



SCAN ME

Or visit
www.bit.ly/WACampusTour



INSPIRING CURRICULUM

Academic excellence and a culture of high expectation is central to life at Wixams Academy. Our offer covers and extends beyond the requirements of the national curriculum offering each student the opportunity to excel and reach their full potential. Students love the experience both in and out of the classroom and as a result, leave as well-rounded individuals.

We aim to provide a curriculum which:

- **Is as rich, inspiring and as broad as possible.**
- **Provides the depth that enables students to master the key knowledge and skills essential for each subject.**
- **Is well designed, inclusive and carefully sequenced to provide all students with a rigorous foundation for future progression.**
- **Engenders high expectations and challenge in order to support the highest outcomes.**
- **Provides students with opportunities to take their curriculum beyond the classroom to develop their love of learning, independence and creative thinking.**
- **Offers students a wide range of extracurricular opportunities, trips and visits in order to develop existing talents and interests and discover new ones.**
- **Fosters the development of students' character, personal development, health and wellbeing preparing them to make a valuable contribution to society.**





YEARS 7 & 8

Students gain a strong secondary foundation by studying the full range of National Curriculum subjects at Key Stage 3.

SUBJECTS		
Art	English	Music
Computing	Geography	Physical Education
Dance	History	Religious Studies
Design Technology	Maths	Science
Drama	Modern Foreign Languages (Spanish and French)	Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE)

YEARS 9, 10 & 11

Our Key Stage 4 curriculum provides both traditional, highly academic routes as well as more specialist routes into the arts, technologies, and computing. We offer one of the broadest ranges of options at Key Stage 4 in the Borough. Each student also chooses enrichment options that include a variety of awards like Duke of Edinburgh, Sports and Arts awards and Home Language GCSEs.

YEARS 9-11	English Language English Literature	Maths	Science (Double or Triple)	CURRENT OPTIONS						
				OPTION A Spanish Geography History Design Technology Media Dance PE Level 1 - ASDAN	OPTION B Spanish History RE Business Studies CNC Creative I Media Art BTEC Music Level 1 - Basic Cooking Skills	OPTION C French Geography Business Studies CNC Creative I Media DT Food Art PE Spanish	OPTION D History Computer Science BTEC Business Food Drama Music History	PSCHE & RE	Core PE	Enrichment Option

LIFE BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

We believe all children should develop beyond the classroom. Our students have many opportunities to take part in an exciting and engaging extra-curricular programme, giving them the chance to learn new skills and enhance existing ones.

Clubs run until 5.30pm on Monday-Thursday, and at lunchtimes.

Some of the activities we offer:

- **Art Club**
- **Coding Club**
- **Craft Club**
- **Dance Club**
- **Drama Club**
- **Mandarin Club**
- **Journalism Club**
- **Rocket Club**
- **Numerous sports Clubs and teams**

Our students are actively involved in their local community, and opportunities for them to develop their leadership skills and show community values through the Academy Council and Peer Mentoring programmes are integral to the work of the Academy.



SHAPE YOUR FUTURE WITH US

QUALITY FIRST TEACHING AND LEARNING

High expectations and excellent teaching ensure our students develop into inquisitive and active learners. Staff at Wixams incorporate a wide range of learning approaches into their teaching ensuring that students of all abilities thrive. Our 'Teach to the top' mantra ensures that all students are stretched whilst our structured support system allows teaching to be personalised so all can achieve. Our lessons are engaging, active and dynamic fostering a genuine love of learning in our students. Literacy and numeracy skills remain fundamental to all that we do, with technology supporting and enhancing learning. Experiences outside the classroom form a crucial part of our teaching and guest speakers and trips/visits further enrich the study of each subject.



PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION (PSHCE)

All students study PSHCE which covers a range of topics, including personal, social, health and relationship issues, sex education, citizenship, personal finance and British values - all tailored to students' age groups. These lessons also play an important role in developing students' skills in leadership, public speaking and debating.





LIFE AT WIXAMS ACADEMY

THE SCHOOL DAY

Wixams Academy is open from 8.15am until 5.30pm operating an extended school day.

This timetable shows a typical day at Wixams Academy.

Wixams Academy - The Academy Day

8.40am-9.05am	Tutor time
9.05am-9.10am	Movement
9.10am-10.10am	Period 1
10.10am-10.15am	Movement
10.15am-11.15am	Period 2
11.15am-11.30am	Break Time
11.30am-12.30pm	Period 3
12.30pm-12.35pm	Movement
12.35pm-1.35pm	Period 4
1.35pm-2.20pm	Lunch
2.20pm-3.20pm	Period 5
3.20pm-3.50pm	Prep (Tues)

HOMWORK AND PREP

Homework and Prep play an important part in each students academic life. As well as preparation for lessons and completion of assignments, it encourages the development of time management skills and an appetite for self-motivated study, both essential for long-term success. Parents can support their children by checking all homework set via the Edulink app.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS (PTA) AND PARENT VOICE

We welcome and encourage parental involvement at the Academy, both through our PTA and by seeking the ideas and views of our families. We welcome new members, so if you would like to join us, please email info@wixamsacademy.co.uk



“My son is more confident and self assured. My son really enjoyed himself. He came home every evening and said how much he enjoyed it, and he liked school, for him (being Autistic/ADHD) it was such a nice thing to hear.”

Year 7 Parent, participated in Transition Summer School



TRANSITION TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

At Wixams Academy, we want all of our students to feel welcome and confident about moving to secondary school. Working closely with our middle and primary school partners, we gain a detailed understanding of the needs of all who join us, to ensure a smooth transition.

Our comprehensive transition programme helps students joining us in Year 7 to quickly settle in at Wixams Academy. Transition events include:

- An Open Evening and Open Mornings to see the Academy in action
- A Transfer Day in July
- Extended transfer periods for students requiring more familiarisation with the Academy.



SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD

Whilst starting at Wixams Academy will be very exciting, we do recognise that moving to any new school can be daunting for students. This is why strong pastoral support is in place from day one.

PERSONALISED TUTORING AND PASTORAL SUPPORT

Our experienced team of personal tutors and non-teaching Head of Years, ensure all aspects of student wellbeing are supported and students are assisted in all personal and educational matters.

LEARNING SUPPORT TEAM AND SENDCo

We are committed to ensuring that every child achieves extraordinary things. We carefully monitor the progress of every student; providing extra support to those who need it. Our Special Educational Needs and Disability Co-ordinator (SENDCo) and team work closely with families to ensure all specific needs are met in the best possible way.

BEHAVIOUR AND DISCIPLINE

The high expectations set at Wixams Academy extend to the behaviour of its students. Our goal is for students to leave the Academy as active and mindful members of society, with high levels of self-awareness and control. Our clear and consistent behaviour and reward systems mean that students feel safe and happy in our calm and supportive environment and behave responsibly. In rare instances where this is not the case, individual children are skilfully and carefully supported by our wider pastoral services, whilst maintaining a calm learning environment for all.



OUR LOCATION

Our Academy is positioned in the heart of the growing and vibrant Wixams community. Sitting within large grounds, close to the town centre, we offer an excellent secondary education to children from Wixams, Wilstead, Bedford and the surrounding areas.

TRANSPORT

Wixams is situated on the A6 with easy road access to Bedford and the surrounding areas. We encourage our students to walk or ride bicycles to the Academy with wide walkways and cycle paths leading up to the Academy and plenty of safe cycle storage.

ACADEMY BUS SERVICE

We provide a dedicated Academy bus service covering the following areas:

Route 1: Elstow>Abbey Fields> High Street>Wixams

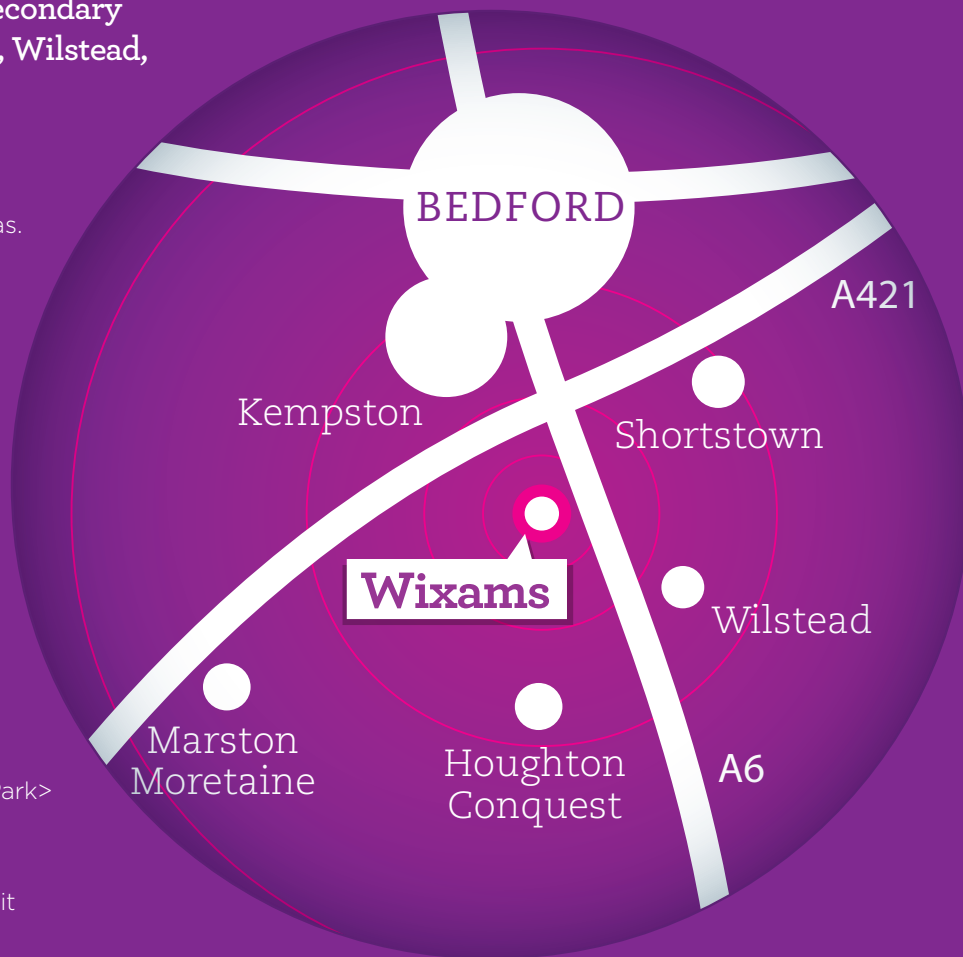
Route 2: Queens Park>Harrolden Road> Shorstown>Cotton End>Wilstead> Wixams

Route 3: Stewartby>Marston Moretaine> Houghton Conquest> Wixams

Route 4: 130 Greenkeepers Road> Queens Park> Great Denham> Kempston> Wixams

To keep up to date with the latest transport information for Wixams Academy, please visit www.wixamsacademy.co.uk

Green Lane, Wixams, Bedfordshire MK42 6BA



HOW TO APPLY

Wixams Academy welcomes applications from students living in Wixams, Wilstead, Bedford and the surrounding areas.

For a Year 7 place in September 2024, please apply by 31 October 2023 via the Bedford Borough Schools Admission site www.bedford.gov.uk/onlineadmissions

Our Open Evening for families seeking a Year 7 place for their child in 2024 will take place on Tuesday 17 October 2023 between 5-8pm. All information with regards to the event and how it will be run will be on our website, social media and in the local press before the event.

For further information and to view our full Admissions Policy, including details of our oversubscription criteria in the event that the Academy receives more applications than we can accept, as well as our appeals procedure, please visit our website www.wixamsacademy.co.uk





TOURS & VISITS

We welcome visitors to view the Academy in action. Please contact us at info@wixamsacademy.co.uk to arrange a tour.

“My daughter loves Wixams Academy and I am really happy with this school. We tell everyone how wonderful you all are and how happy and confident that she is since joining Wixams Academy.”

Wixams Academy Year 7 Parent






bcat | Bedford College Academies Trust

Tel: **01234 608950**

Email: **info@wixamsacademy.co.uk**

Website: **www.wixamsacademy.co.uk**

Follow us on social media for all the latest Wixams Academy information

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Bedfordshire MK42 6BA**