

# XP East

Preparing our children to be successful in the modern world

We would like to know your views about our proposal to open a Free School in Doncaster.



Following the success of our founding school, XP, this consultation leaflet provides information about our proposal to open another Free School for 11-19 year olds in Doncaster.

XP East is currently in the pre-opening phase of the Free School process and it is due to open in September 2017. The school will open with year 7 only and will grow over the next five years to 450 pupils and will include 200 in the Sixth Form.

This consultation will enable local stakeholders to ask questions and gain a much broader overview of our proposal, raising issues or interest about the development of our new school in Doncaster. Our website, [www.xpeast.org](http://www.xpeast.org), will be updated on a regular basis, sharing with you the progress we are making towards opening the school.

All ideas and comments gathered during this consultation process will form part of a report, which will be passed onto the XP Trust and Government Ministers in the Department for Education. They will take your views into account when making decisions about the proposed Free School for Doncaster, and whether to enter into a funding agreement which will enable the school to open. The consultation will take place from 31st October 2016 to 9th December 2016.

When you have read this leaflet, please take a few moments to fill in the form on the school website, [www.xpeast.org](http://www.xpeast.org) before 12pm on Friday 9th December. Hard copies of the consultation forms are also available from XP School reception if you cannot access to the internet.

## What is a Free School?

A Free School is a normal secondary school funded directly by the Department for Education. Once established, a Free School becomes an Academy and abides by the same rules as all Academies. Currently, out of the 17 Secondary Schools in Doncaster, 16 are Academies.

Free Schools can be set up by parents, teachers, and other community groups. Our school is being run by professional educators who build, run and provide outstanding learning, day in, day out.

Before the Department for Education will enter into a funding agreement for the school they need to know that you support our school. Therefore, your views are very important. More information on Free School's can be found at [www.education.gov.uk/freeschools](http://www.education.gov.uk/freeschools)

## What is XP East?

XP East is a small, personalised, 11-19 project-based learning secondary school in Doncaster that will open in September 2017. We are rolling the school out year by year, so for September 2017, there will be 50 places in our founding Year 7.

Our projects and expeditions will cover the National Curriculum and we will deliver GCSEs and A Levels/ International Baccalaureate. We will be located next to the existing XP School.

We are non-selective and any new parent can apply for their child to attend XP East from across the borough of Doncaster. It doesn't matter how close you live to our school - everyone has the same chance.

### XP East is for everyone

We drive high standards in both academic and vocational achievement.

### Value driven

Our students, staff and parents are expected to be courageous, respectful, committed to craftsmanship, quality, compassionate and always show integrity.

### High expectations

Our aim is for 100% of our students to have the chance to go to university or college.

### We know our students personally

Each class will have 25 students, with a permanent teaching assistant, so we can personalise the experience for each student.

### World class

XP East is run by educators that have searched the globe for the very best educational model for our school.

# Come to our consultation event

Thursday 24th November, 6-7pm

XP School, Middle Bank, Doncaster, DN4 5NG.



## Our vision and ethos at XP East

We believe the best way to improve outcomes for our young learners is to make the learning in schools reflect the way successful people do things in the adult world. For this to work, learning has to be purposeful and meaningful. This is the same approach of around 200 High Tech High and Expeditionary Learning schools in the USA. It is incredibly successful, has been proven to work for over a decade, and is working at our current school, XP.

To achieve the same level of success, the curriculum of XP East will take an experiential project-based learning approach, where students learn through academically rigorous, cross-subject learning expeditions. Students always have an authentic reason to take part in the expedition and are expected to create drafts of project work. The work students produce is, therefore, of high quality and there is an expectation that work by students will be publicly exhibited to an authentic audience.

XP East will be 100% focused on preparing our children to be successful in the adult world, and to best do this, we will facilitate authentic, real world experiences where our children will be expected to behave as adults, and produce work through a process that is as similar as possible to that of the adult world. As well as mastery of subject knowledge, our children will gain skills critical to university readiness and lifelong success, such as; literacy, numeracy problem-solving, critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, persistence toward excellence and active citizenship.

## What makes XP East different?

Rather than learning subjects separately, students will learn through authentic, cross-subject projects, where:

### Learning is active

Students will become scientists, historians, engineers and artists, investigating real community problems and developing creative, actionable solutions.

### Learning is personalised

Students of all abilities are challenged and supported to do more than they think they can. An ethic of excellence is cultivated through the quality of their work and thinking.

### Learning is meaningful

Expeditions are designed around real-world issues and problems and our students work to affect positive change in their communities. Our students are engaged and motivated by understanding that their learning has relevance, meaning and purpose.

### Learning is public

Parents, experts and the wider community are regularly invited to our exhibition nights where students articulately present their finished expedition work. Often, expedition work is placed within the community to provide a meaningful function, and to enhance the authenticity of the work we expect from students.

### Learning is collaborative

We do not segregate our children by social class or academic ability. Instead, we share a common responsibility through our teachers, students, and families for rigorous expectations of our work, achievement, and behaviour. Our school culture is one of trust, respect, responsibility, and joy in learning.

### Learning is challenging

Students of all abilities are challenged and supported to do more than they think they can. An ethic of excellence is cultivated through the quality of their work and thinking.

## What to expect from XP East

Although the way we deliver the curriculum is different from other schools, you can feel safe in the knowledge that students will be covering the National Curriculum and gaining GCSE and A-level/Baccalaureate qualifications, just like they currently do at XP.

Our aim is that all our children will be able to go to university or college, even if they ultimately choose not to pursue an academic pathway. The choice will be theirs. For this to happen, we expect all our students to gain at least 8 'good' GCSE passes including English and Maths, and 3 A-levels or equivalent.

As well as gaining qualifications, our college-bound students learn inquiry skills, research skills, and habits of scholarship that motivate them to work independently, think critically about the world around them, and persist with their work until it is of high quality.

## Admissions

You can view our full admissions policy by visiting [www.xpeast.org](http://www.xpeast.org)