

# School Prospectus



## Welcome to Monkton Academy

Making memorable moments; all day; every day.





Dear Parent/Carer,

The Staff and Governors at Monkton Academy seek to provide a positive and happy working environment where children are valued for their academic and social worth. We greatly appreciate the contribution parents make to the children's education and welcome them visiting us at any mutually convenient time to see the school in operation.

The aim of this school is to enable our children to develop a sense of self-respect and thereby recognise the part they have to play in establishing the family community we foster at Monkton Academy. In order to achieve this, we offer a challenging cross-curricular curriculum which aims to bring out the best in every child. We are committed to the belief that this curriculum needs to be founded on issues of personal, social, cultural, spiritual and physical education in order to prepare the children for the challenges and responsibilities they will meet in the future.

Making Memorable Moments everyday; all day; for everyone is something we always aim to achieve and continuously strive for.

*The Staff and School Governors.*

### School Aim

Our vision is to Inspire, Achieve and Empower pupils.

We **INSPIRE** pupils by: Teaching exciting and challenging lessons that help us learn new skills and acquire knowledge. Inspire us to be physically fit. Develop our aspirations to explore the wider world. Encourage us by telling us we can do it.

**EMPOWER** by: Teaching us life skills so that we can become independent. Knowing how to keep ourselves and others safe. Encourage us to be confident and feel good about ourselves. Help to get along with all members of our school community.

**ACHIEVE** by: Challenging us and allowing us time to reflect and improve our learning. Providing an environment where we are confident to experiment and make mistakes. Promoting resilience and being able to overcome obstacles in our path. Giving us a variety of opportunities to succeed across the curriculum.

Mission Statement - Making Memorable Moments everyday; all day; for everyone.

### Contact Us

**Address:** Monkton Academy, Dame Flora Robson Avenue, South Shields, NE34 9RB

**Telephone:** 0191 424 0200

**Email:** [office@monktonacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@monktonacademy.co.uk)

You can keep up to date with all of the fun things we are getting up to in school via our school website [monktonacademy.co.uk](http://monktonacademy.co.uk), our facebook page "Monkton Academy" or our blog <https://monktonacademy.wordpress.com/> which has updates on school life by Mr Bowler.

## School Staff 2024-25

<b>Staff Member</b>	<b>Staff Responsibility</b>
Mr S Bowler	Principal, Designated Child Protection Lead, Assessment Lead, Health and Safety Lead
Miss N Graham	Assistant Principal, SENCO, Leader of EAL, Designated Child Protection Officer & ECT/Induction Mentor
Miss T Sheriff	Assistant Principal, Leader of English, Leader of PE (Participation), Designated Child Protection Officer, Teaching & Learning Co-Lead, EHWB Lead & Website/App Lead
Miss L Heathfield	Pupil Premium Lead
Mrs L Gray	Curriculum Leader, Leader of RE & Leader of Activity Week
Mrs A Ford	Creative Arts Lead (DT, Art, Music) & Leader of PSHE including School's Council
Miss L Connelly	Leader of Maths, Humanities, Forest School & ECT Mentor
Mr M Bircham	Leader of Science & Computing
Mrs H McCullough	Gifted & Talented Lead
Miss L McKenzie	Leader of MfL, Reading for Pleasure Lead & Leader for Developing Community Links
Mrs A Moat	Leader of PE (Excellence) & Sport's Premium Lead
Miss K Anderson & Mr T Elliott	Intervention Leads & Higher Level Teaching Assistants
Miss K Liddle / Mrs J Henderson	Teaching Assistants
Mrs C Meadwell	Pastoral & Attendance Lead (PAL)
Mrs E Anderson	Finance Manager
Mrs T McCoy	Administrative Assistant
Miss C Cameron	Teaching Assistant Apprentice
Mr N Rees	Site Manager
Mrs S Lane / Mr R Park	Housekeeping
Mrs J Henderson / Mrs M Mohammed Mrs S Lane / Miss J Patterson	Midday Supervisors
Mrs C Barrington / Mrs A Khan / Mrs E Al-Sayadi	School Chefs



### **School Policies & Admission**

We are currently only able to accept a maximum of 60 pupils per year group. Full details of School Admission and Policies are available on our school website under the section 'Key Information'.

### **Governors 2023-2024**

<b>Chair of Governors: Mrs Alison Sharp</b>	
Mr Nigel Henderson (Vice Chair of Governors)	Ms Victoria Sheriff
Mr Clive Lincoln	Mr Steven Bowler
Mrs A Moat	Mrs Rebecca Clark

### **Our School Day**

School gates open every day at 8:30 am in readiness for registration at 8:45 am. Children will have a morning break at 10:10 am and a lunch break at 12 pm. Children can be collected at the end of the school day at 3 pm.

Children in Years 3 and 4 will enter and leave school via the gates on Richardson Avenue. Children in Years 5 and 6 will enter and leave school via the gates on Dame Flora Robson Avenue. At the end of the school day, children will be brought out to you in the school yard. Only children in Years 5 and 6 are allowed to walk home alone and a parental consent form must be completed before your child is permitted to leave school without an adult.

In addition to the above, we also have a Breakfast Club that runs from 8.15 am until the start of school. Children attending should enter school via the main entrance. Breakfast club is provided free of charge and sponsored by Greggs the bakers. Children will be provided with a range of breakfast options such as toast, cereal, fruit and juice. Dietary requirements will be met wherever needed. If you would like your child to attend Breakfast Club, please complete and return the application form included with this pack.

A variety of clubs also run throughout the school day at break times and after school such as gardening club, games club and a wide range of sporting clubs. We seek feedback from children on a yearly basis to provide them with clubs that they desire.



## Uniform

We are very proud of our school uniform and ask parents to support us in encouraging its use.

We ask that children wear:

Black smart school trousers/shorts/skirt, a blue polo shirt and school sweatshirt as shown below:



School uniform can be purchased from:

Initial Images  
Rekedyke Industrial Estate, 2D &  
2E, Eldon St, South Shields NE33  
5BZ

Phone: 0191 455 8128

We ask that parents ensure that their children wear sensible black school shoes and socks/tights in keeping with the school uniform. If boots or wellies are worn in the winter for travelling to school, a change of shoes must be brought into school.

For safety reasons, no jewellery apart from a wristwatch is allowed to be worn in school. Hair colours or extreme hairstyles are not allowed. We ask parents to co-operate with this policy at all times.



### **Attendance & Punctuality**

Regular attendance at school is essential. Our school day at Monkton Academy is fast paced and full of fun learning opportunities. If your child is absent it may lead to them missing out on important learning and will delay their progress. If your child is absent from school due to illness, please inform the school office no later than 9 am that morning. We ask that parents provide us with at least two emergency contact telephone numbers in case your child becomes ill during the school day. Please complete the registration form included with this pack and return to school as soon as possible. Registration starts at 8.45 am and is an essential part of the morning to ensure your child starts the day in the best possible way. Please make sure your child arrives at school in good time.

Pupils are rewarded for each full week of attendance with a star on their attendance chart in class. At the end of each term, they count up their stars and are invited to attend our attendance shop to cash these in for a range of treats and goodies. The items on offer in the shop range from one to ten star items. Pupils choose to spend their stars in whichever way suits them. Some may choose a larger prize and others may choose to use their stars to pay for a range of smaller prizes. Others may save these up over the course of the academic year to spend on prizes later. We encourage our pupils to tell us what sort of prizes they would like to see in their shop, there is something for everyone. We also make a point of looking for those pupils who have made huge improvements in attendance.

### **Holidays during term time**

We have received notification from the Department of Education that Principals/Head Teachers are no longer allowed to grant Leave of Absence for the purpose of a family holiday during term time. Absence will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. We are under a duty to refer all Leave of Absences to the Local Authority who may issue parents with a fine.

### **Lunches**

School lunches at Monkton Academy are of a very high standard and are prepared fresh on site on a daily basis. The cost of a school lunch is £2.20 per day and payment should be made on a Monday for the forthcoming week. We are now a cashless school and all payments must be made via ParentPay. Your child will bring home a ParentPay activation and password letter in their first week at school. If you are entitled to free school meals, please complete and return the free school meal application form included with this pack, and return to the school office as soon as possible. Your child can also bring a packed lunch to school, all that we ask is that they take one or the other a full week at a time.





## **Medical Conditions**

It is your responsibility to ensure school is aware of any medical conditions that your child may have. If your child requires medication during the school day, please contact the office to complete the appropriate medical forms. Over the counter medication can not be administered. Medication must have been prescribed by a doctor or pharmacist with a dispensary label with your child's name, date of birth and dosage requirements. Children with asthma also need to follow this procedure and must have an inhaler and a spacer device in school at all times. If your child has asthma, please contact the office to complete an asthma card.

It is encouraged that all medical appointments are booked outside of school hours wherever possible. Where this is not possible, please inform the school office and provide proof of appointment.

## **Assessments/Reporting to Parents**

Teachers will continuously assess children to plan work which is relevant to each individual, group or class. We hold parents' evenings three times a year at the end of each term. This will provide parents with an opportunity to discuss their child's progress. We try to be flexible with times and try to accommodate parents who can not attend with alternative appointments. End of year detailed reports will be provided in the summer term, as well as smaller progress reports throughout the year.

## **Curriculum**

We are committed to the belief that our curriculum needs to be founded on issues of personal, social, cultural, spiritual and physical education in order to prepare the children for the challenges and responsibilities they will meet in the future. Currently we are striving to:

- Promote positive behaviour by creating an atmosphere of trust, security and mutual respect.
- Create an inspirational and powerful cross curricular programme which uses a refreshing approach. This will be influential in developing our pupils' individual strengths.
- Promote a positive and friendly community spirit within each class, our school and with all our partners in the local community.
- Deliver high standards of teaching and learning across the curriculum by providing meaningful, rewarding and memorable experiences.
- Provide a safe stimulating, vibrant and motivating environment, which children are happy to explore, learn from and respect.
- Use visits to allow children to explore their local area and stimulate an interest in curriculum learning.

We provide a broad and balanced curriculum. Reading, writing and maths are taught everyday. We teach via a topic or thematic approach where possible. This ensures children become fully immersed in what they are learning about and can try a variety of skills. Where this is not possible, we teach subject specific skills. We also have dedicated activities that we do on a yearly basis for each year. Year 3 has an Artist in Residence, Year 4 takes part in a residential visit, Year 5 have swimming lessons and Year 6 take part in a week-long educational visit.



## **Physical Education**

Sport and Physical Education play an integral role in shaping the curriculum at Monkton Academy. Weekly lessons are delivered by Physical Education specialists and all students are encouraged to participate in a broad range of extra-curricular sports clubs on offer. Vital skills are developed through sport; including communication, team work, winning and losing and we strive to utilise Sportsmanship qualities in all that we do. Leading a healthy and active lifestyle has many benefits for all students including proven progress in academic performance. At Monkton, all students participate in the Daily Mile improving both their physical and mental wellbeing. We aim for all students to develop a lifelong love of sport at PE from their time with us.

## **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities**

We believe that all pupils are capable of success regardless of background, beliefs, Special Educational Needs or disability. We are committed to ensuring that all pupils receive the best support and care to ensure they reach their full potential by the time they leave us at the end of Year 6. We believe that quality first teaching is vital in ensuring support and progress of all children initially, while we have measures in place to improve the outcomes of those pupils who require a little more support. We aim to raise the aspirations of all pupils with a Special Educational Need. We focus on establishing clear outcomes for our pupils so that they are as prepared as possible for the next steps in education, and indeed life, upon leaving us. We do not simply focus on just establishing hours of provision. Support is meaningful, relevant and based around individual, personalised targets.

Our school currently provides additional and/or different provision for a range of needs, including:

- Communication and interaction, for example, autistic spectrum disorder, Asperger's Syndrome, speech and language difficulties
- Cognition and learning, for example, dyslexia, dyspraxia,
- Social, emotional and mental health difficulties, for example, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
  - Sensory and/or physical needs, for example, visual impairments, hearing impairments, processing difficulties, epilepsy
  - Moderate/severe/profound and multiple learning difficulties

Our support is tailored towards the key areas in the Code of Practice and some of the provision we currently provide is:

- Rapid programs for phonics, reading and maths
- 1:1 targeted early English skills intervention
- English and Maths 5-minute box daily intervention
- Sensory area with daily timetabled access
- Lego therapy
- Nurture club

More information on the provision we offer within our school can be located in the SEND Information Report on our school website.





## **Home Learning**

During each term, your child will be set a piece of Home Learning for English, Maths and the wider curriculum. The Home Learning task may be practical in nature and will support the topic the children are studying. Class newsletters will indicate what the task is and when it should be completed by. The intensity and expectation will increase, as the children move through the school. This will prepare them as they enter Secondary school. This learning will support work in the classroom. It is an expectation that every child completes all the tasks set. Once completed, reward time is allocated to each class. They will choose an activity of their choice. During this time, any child who has not completed Home Learning, will be expected to do so. Exceptional pieces of Home Learning will be celebrated in Assembly.

## **Additional Learning**

We want to develop our children beyond their academic skills, and the confinements of the classroom, and give them a more well-rounded educational experience. Since we have become Monkton Academy, we have added these additional learning experiences to support our goal:

- **Forest School**

Forest School is now embedded into our curriculum and the children are given opportunities each year for outdoor learning and to learn survival skills. We are now seeing an impact showing improvements to pupil progress, attainment, problem solving and teamwork skills. We are constantly adapting our Forest School area to best suit our children's needs and aim to build on this each and every year.

- **Library**

Our library is an exciting space for children to read. Within the library, there are a wide range of engaging and stimulating texts, as well as a banded reading scheme to ensure pupils are able to read at a level suitable for their stage of development. We don't just provide fictional story books for our pupils, we try to ensure that there is a little something for everyone; magazines, comics and newspapers are also a key feature in our library area. Kitted out with comfy seating choices to help children relax and appreciate their chosen text, our library area is a peaceful, calm environment for pupils to enjoy.

Reading is an integral part of our curriculum at Monkton – we believe it allows children to get lost in another world. We aim to promote a *genuine* love of reading and writing by encouraging children to 'write as writers' and 'read as readers'. We want children to leave our school with a love of literature, with the belief that anyone can be a reader or a writer.

The Hub is the name for our non-fiction, research station located in the upper part of school. As the name suggests, The Hub is an area of school designed for pupils to take an active role in their learning, working independently to research key topic ideas or themes using a variety of sources, such as: Chromebooks, encyclopaedias, explanation and other non-fiction text books.



- **Outdoor Laboratory**

Our outdoor Science lab will be used for Scientific investigation and allow all children in school to take on the role of Scientists in an exciting environment. It aims to enthuse children in the immersive side of the subject and generate real curiosity in which children will learn to ask their own questions then plan their investigations to explore the outcomes. Children will also be encouraged to perform their own risk assessments and learn how to really work scientifically outside of the constraints of the classroom whilst following the requirements of the National Curriculum.

- **Ninja and Trim Trails**

We have two age appropriate activity trails at the upper and lower sections of the school. It helps to strengthen the whole body and assist in great coordination and balance. These are used at break times and help develop children's physical activity.

### **Pupil Premium**

Pupil premium funding is additional funding, given to publicly funded schools so they can extend their support to disadvantaged pupils in order to help close the attainment gap between these children and their peers. The premium is provided to enable these pupils to be supported to reach their potential. It is paid to schools according to the number of pupils who have been registered as eligible for free school meals at any point in the last six years.

Details on how we allocate and spend our pupil premium can be found in our action plan found on our school website. This is reviewed annually and forms a crucial part of school self-evaluation. At Monkton Academy, we aim to ensure that all pupils, regardless of circumstance, are able to have the best possible access to what we have to offer. You can also see on our website how we spend our Sports Premium and the difference it makes to our pupils' lives.

### **Key Information**

Further information such as admission arrangements, school policies etc are available to view on our school website. We also have our very own School App and use Facebook. The Principal also writes a blog to keep parents regularly updated. If you require any further information, or would like to arrange a visit to our school, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

### **Disclaimer**

The information in this brochure was prepared and published in 2024 for the academic year 24/25. Details were correct at this time; however, it must not be presumed that there will be no changes to this information during the school year. Due to guidance provided by the Department of Education in the Academic Year 2023-2024/2024-2025.