



# Murray Park Community School

## Prospectus

Supporting pupils in gaining a positive outlook,  
shaping their futures and reaching their full potential

**"PROUD TO BE HERE"**



# Welcome to Murray Park School

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Nicola Caley  
Headteacher



Murray Park  
Senior Leadership  
Team

Thank you for your interest in Murray Park School. On behalf of staff, pupils and governors, we would like to offer you a warm welcome. We trust that this brochure provides an insight into the values and achievements which makes our wonderful school so effective.

Murray Park School, situated in Mickleover, Derby, is a Foundation School. This means that the Governing Body retain ownership of the school and is the employer of the staff. It is a growing co-educational, comprehensive school for pupils aged 11 to 16 years. Just west of the city, we draw from a wide range of primary schools.

# Ambition Statement

At Murray Park School, our curriculum vision is to provide an ambitious and inspirational education for all our pupils. Our strong set of values: Perseverance; Respect; Independence; Dreams and Excellence (PRIDE) underpin our ethos, developing cultural capital in all we do. Through our curriculum, our pupils develop the confidence to embrace the responsibilities that life has to offer and to become valued members of the community, both now and in the future.

In all lessons the pupils are challenged and engaged in an education which prepares them for their futures. Our curriculum enables all of our pupils to develop life skills, such as, creativity, empathy and collaboration, resulting in resilient individuals with high aspirations. Our health and well-being provision ensures that our pupils lead healthy and fulfilling lives and that every pupil has the knowledge and confidence to take care of their own health and well-being.

As a result of our outstanding careers programme, all of our pupils are prepared for the next stage of their education, training and employment through our extensive network of business partners and dedicated careers centre. Our wide range of extra-curricular activities include residential opportunities and international travel. These opportunities enrich the formal curriculum and deepen the pupils' knowledge and skills.

Every child at Murray Park School is equipped to become a well-qualified and successful young person.





# Curriculum Rationale

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All pupils in Years 7 to 11 follow the National Curriculum which is divided into core and foundation subjects:

Core Subjects – English, Mathematics and Science.

Foundation Subjects – Geography, History, Religious Studies, Modern Foreign Languages, Computing, Art and Design, Music, Drama, Textiles, Engineering, Design and Technology, Physical Education and Personal,

Social, Health and Economic Education, Citizenship and Relationships and Sex Education. At Key Stage 4, the students can choose to study a wide variety of subjects as part of the options process, such as, Business Studies, Construction, Hair and Beauty, Health and Social Care, Ancient History, Photography as well as AS Level Government and Politics.

Pupils have the opportunity to follow the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) which is a set of subjects at GCSE that keeps young people's options open for further study and future careers. The EBacc is: English Language and Literature; Maths; the Sciences; Geography or History and a language.



# Inclusion

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**Inspirational teaching and enthusiastic learning are at the heart of our values. All students at Murray Park, whatever their protected characteristic, have equal rights of access to a curriculum that builds on their previous learning.**

Murray Park School is a highly inclusive school. We go to great lengths to ensure every child can and does succeed in education. As part of our provision we have developed The Bridge and the Hub which are small, specialised units supporting pupils with additional needs.

We support pupils who access our alternative provision, promoting a learning environment which insists on high expectations and delivers bespoke provision to meet the needs of individuals. Our fantastic community garden has enabled the pupils to work with the local community. In addition, the pupils visit places of work in order to gain an insight into the skills needed for the next stage of their education and training.

'Option choices at key stage 4 provide a good balance of academic & vocational subjects.'

Ofsted January 2019



# Pupil Leadership and Pupil Voice

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Education is not simply about lessons in a classroom, it is about seizing every occasion to inspire in our pupils the thirst for knowledge and for them to be able to take every opportunity they may encounter across their school life.

Pupils are therefore given opportunities to demonstrate leadership in lessons, on the sports field or as prefects. They are encouraged to help shape the school through contributions to the Mentoring Scheme, Year Councils and Junior Leadership team and to take an active role in the local and global community by participating in community activities and charitable events. Our senior prefects successfully lead these groups.

We have recently launched a peer mentorship programme which offers outstanding leadership opportunities at the same time as supporting pupil mental health.

# A Safe and Caring Environment

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## Rewards and Responsibilities

Good behaviour is vital to our pupils' progress and achievement in school, as well as developing personal responsibility in the community. The school has a stepped approach to sanctions which encourages positive behaviour – this works alongside the rewards system. All behaviour and reward points can be viewed by parents on their Go4Schools personalised area.

Our rewards system raises the pupils' aspirations and promotes a positive attitude towards school life and beyond. Consequently, pupils at Murray Park School are praised in a variety of ways, such as, through Learner of the Week awards, letters and postcards home, rewards trips and through articles in the school newsletter. The pupils' achievements are also promoted in assemblies and through positive feedback on the students' work. Pupils who have demonstrated excellent attendance and behaviour will have the opportunity to participate in specific trips and activities. The School's Celebration Evening is an annual opportunity to praise the pupils' achievements which is attended by pupils, parents/carers, members of staff and members of the governing body. Pupils at Murray Park School are rewarded for their contribution to all aspects of school life: pastoral, academic, their commitment to the extra-curricular programme and for developing personal responsibility in the community.

'Pupils told the inspector that they feel safe in school.' – Ofsted January 2019

**We have a strong set of values which have been created by our pupils. All positive points are based on these values:**

**Perseverance**

**Respect**

**Independence**

**Dreams**

**Excellence**





# Pastoral Care

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The form tutor is the first point of contact and plays a central role in your child's school life:

Each morning your child will participate in a variety of activities including:

- Planner/uniform/equipment check
- Assembly
- Thought for the Week
- Attendance monitoring
- News and current affairs
- Reading

'Pupils learn how to keep themselves safe, fit and healthy.'  
Ofsted January 2019



# Behaviour Policy

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We have a set of non-negotiables for pupils which are regularly referred to by members of staff. These are used to support a code of conduct that results in a positive atmosphere for learning:

- Correct equipment for every lesson.
- Correct uniform, including footwear.
- All work to be produced to the best standard possible including homework.
- Accept responsibility for own learning and progress.
- Respect for everyone and everything including yourself.
- Regular attendance to school and punctuality.
- No physical contact.
- No phones beyond the school gate.

'Pupils are typically considerate and respectful towards each other.'  
Ofsted January 2019



# Home/School Communication

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We encourage regular communication between home and school through Go4Schools, our half-termly newsletters, emails and text messages. You can monitor the achievements and the progress of your child through the Go4Schools app. We meet parents/carers regularly through our parental forums and we have a thriving parent-teacher association which organises events to raise money for new school equipment. All parents/carers are welcome to join.



# Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance

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Our Aspirations Careers and Employability Co-ordinator works closely with all pupils to provide them with the advice they require. Pupils are given individual help at each stage, from choosing their subjects in Year 9 to post-school destinations. We are also able to provide an extensive employability and aspirations

programme to all pupils across all years and we are very proud and happy to announce that we work very closely with Toyota as one of only two preferred partnership schools. This is hugely beneficial to our pupils. As a result of our outstanding careers programme, all of our pupils are prepared for the next stage of their

education, training and employment through our extensive network of business partners and dedicated careers' centre. Murray Park School has been awarded the prestigious Career Mark Award for excellence in Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance.



'A dedicated team of staff provides pupils with a helpful career guidance programme.' – Ofsted January 2019



# Enrichment Opportunities

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At Murray Park, we place great emphasis on enriching and enhancing the learning of our pupils by encouraging them to try new challenges and experiences that will develop them as individuals beyond their academic studies. For many pupils, the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme has become a natural and increasingly popular choice at three award levels (Bronze, Silver and Gold). For those talented, sporting students we offer highly successful accredited sports leadership programmes.

We believe that school should provide good memories which last a lifetime and that learning takes place in many different ways and in many different environments. We therefore offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities, including trips and visits and a wide range of clubs, activities and opportunities so that pupils can develop interests and talents beyond the formal curriculum.

Our pupils have the opportunity to visit countries, such as, Italy and China.

'New leaders are providing pupils with more opportunities to develop a range of skills by engaging in extra curricular activities.'

Ofsted January 2019





# Transition from Year 6 to 7

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**'We believe that the support Murray Park offers each child and their parents through this crucial stage in their lives, makes for a successful and smooth transition from primary to secondary school.'**

At Murray Park, we have excellent partnerships with all our primary schools and our established and successful transition programme enables pupils to move seamlessly into secondary education.

Before your child joins Murray Park School, extensive liaison will have taken place. We make sure that we know about friendship groups and academic abilities so that we can ensure a smooth transition. Some of our transition work includes:

- Every child receiving a visit from a key member of our transition team.
- Collecting essential information for us to know your child.
- A tailored induction programme.
- Additional induction time for pupils who may need extra support.
- Regular communication and updates for families.
- A Summer School.

Pupils in Years 7 and 8 have base rooms which they can use at break and lunchtime in order to spend time with their friends and form new friendships.

**'My child has really settled into Year 7, the help and support given by the school is outstanding. The summer scheme was excellent, which gave my child confidence to start Year 7.'**  
**Parent of Year 7 pupil.**



# Admissions

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Applications for admission will be considered from pupils, who are aged 11 without reference to aptitude or ability. The admission number for September 2022 is 230.

Priority for admission will be given to children whose parents have requested a place using the Common Application Form. If the number of applications exceeds the number of places then the following criteria will apply.

1. A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order 67.
2. Those living in the defined "normal catchment" area.
3. Siblings of those pupils who will be attending the school at the date of admission, in order of proximity.
4. Proximity to the school.

In the event of oversubscription, the above criteria will be applied. In cases of a tiebreaker for applications of equal strength, preference will be given to the applicant with the shorter proximity to the school measured by the shortest available route from the home to the main school entrance.

Parents of children not offered a place will be informed of their right of appeal to an independent appeal panel.



# School Uniform

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All pupils are expected to wear uniform and we appreciate parents and pupils working with us to keep our school smart. Approved school uniform; jumpers and ties can be purchased from our school supplier. All uniform should be marked with the pupils' names.

**Our complete uniform policy is available on our website.**

## Basic Uniform:

Navy blue Murray Park logo blazer and jumper or cardigan

White formal shirt

Black formal knee length skirt or black formal trousers (not tight fitting) / knee length black tailored shorts

School tie

Black formal shoes  
(no boots or trainers)

Black or navy blue winter coat.



# Policies

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## **Meeting the requirements of children with Special Educational Needs: Admission of pupils with disabilities**

All pupils are accepted, in accordance with the standard admission procedures. A pupil's disability will not be cause for discrimination when applying for a place at Murray Park and the Governing Body has due regard for the practice advocated in the Code of Practice.

## **Disability Equality Scheme and Access Arrangements**

Murray Park is committed to ensuring equality of education and opportunity for all its pupils whatever their protected characteristic. The aim is to develop a culture of inclusion which allows everyone to participate fully in school life. Achievement of all pupils is monitored carefully and data is used to raise standards and ensure inclusive teaching.

All pupils have access to the full curriculum and it is sufficiently flexible to respond to individual needs. The site aims to cater for those with disabilities and modifications to the existing building have made most areas accessible.

## **Child Protection Policy**

Child protection is defined as safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children by:

- Protecting children from maltreatment.
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development.
- Ensuring children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Everyone working in, or for our school, shares an objective to help keep children and young people safe by contributing to:

- Providing a safe environment for children and young people to learn in education settings.
- Identifying children who may be in need of extra help, or are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, and taking the appropriate action, working with other services as needed.

## **The Data Protection Act**

The Headteacher and the Governors of Murray Park are registered under the Data Protection Act. We ask that parents/carers help us to keep information up to date by returning information for checking as quickly as possible. The subject of any data has the right to access the information to check its validity.

We are fully compliant with GDPR.





# Contact with School

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## **"Every day is an Open Day at Murray Park School"**

You are always welcome to come in and look around whilst lessons are in progress.

Please contact us by email or by telephone before visiting, so that the most appropriate member of staff can meet you.

### **Useful Contacts**

Chair of Governors.....	Dr P Davies
Headteacher.....	Mrs N Caley
Deputy Headteacher – Behaviour .....	Ms R Somes
Deputy Headteacher – Curriculum .....	Ms S Whiston
Assistant Headteacher – Teaching & Learning.....	Mr N Lynn
Assistant Headteacher – KS3 Achievement .....	Mr G Hagen
Assistant Headteacher – KS4 Achievement.....	Mr P Gregory
Assistant Headteacher – Alternative Provision.....	Mrs T Lucas
Transition Co-ordinator .....	Mrs T Day
SEND Co-ordinator .....	Mrs S Hubbard

**This brochure offers a snapshot of the rich and balanced educational experience on offer at Murray Park School. More information about all school activities, achievements and policies, including other publications produced by the school are available on the school website at: [www.murraypark.derby.sch.uk](http://www.murraypark.derby.sch.uk).**

**The details in this publication are correct at the time of going to press. Arrangements for the school year or subsequent school years may be subject to alteration.**





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