

Fight for what's right

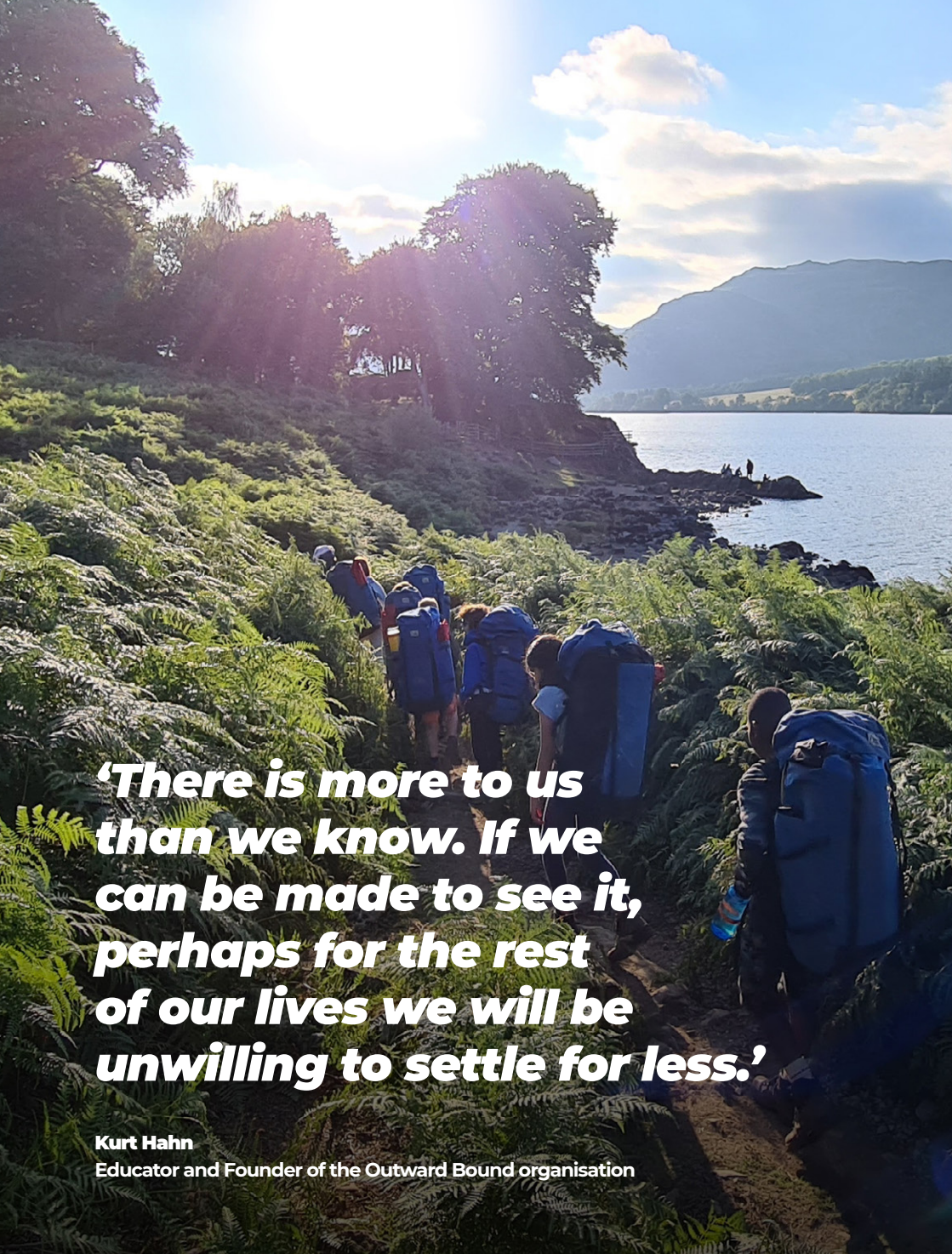
XP.
GATESHEAD

XP GATESHEAD

PROSPECTUS



COURAGE | RESPECT | CRAFTSMANSHIP & QUALITY | COMPASSION | INTEGRITY



‘There is more to us than we know. If we can be made to see it, perhaps for the rest of our lives we will be unwilling to settle for less.’

Kurt Hahn
Educator and Founder of the Outward Bound organisation

Dear Parent

Thank you for your interest in XP Gateshead.

This prospectus explains what our school is all about, how we do things, what you should expect from us and what we expect from you.

XP Gateshead opened in September 2021 and we are part of a family of established schools in the XP Trust. Every year there are 50 places available at XP Gateshead and no more. You apply for places through the normal Local Authority process.

At XP Gateshead we focus relentlessly on beautiful work, character growth and academic success. As a result, our school culture is value driven. Therefore, we expect our students, staff and parents to be courageous, respectful, committed to craftsmanship and quality, to always show integrity and above all... to have compassion. We provide an authentically tough and rewarding education for everyone, and we believe this is best achieved through not segregating our children by any measure, such as social class or academic ability.

To be absolutely clear, XP is neither a vocational school, so we do not prepare students for specific trades, or an ‘outdoor adventure’ school. XP Gateshead is a deliberately-sized, mainstream 11-16 secondary school. Our curriculum and its delivery is not tailored for or aimed at any one particular group of children or type of child with specific ways of learning.

XP Gateshead is the first XP Trust school in the North-East. We have built upon the great work of XP Trust, which has received national and international praise for its highly ambitious and innovative curriculum.

XP stands for something... a great education for all children.

Julie Mosley
Principal



An academically rigorous curriculum with deep, visceral learning experiences

Our students are immersed in term long learning expeditions, covering standards from across many subjects. We ensure our expeditions are broad and engaging by rigorous mapping of appropriate standards from the National Curriculum, GCSE and the International Baccalaureate to each learning activity, ensuring purpose and meaning is clear.

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.

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



'I feel like the whole process and the school ethos is not just about my daughter's education but helping her grow as a person. She is learning life skills that will help her in the future as well making her a valued member of the community.'

XPG parent

'We are still so appreciative that our son was lucky enough to get a place at XP. I can see and hear the impact of the school's philosophy in him and his behaviour. In the way he considers things, especially other people and their actions. I am very proud of him and hugely grateful to XP.'

XPG parent



A relentless focus on quality of work and character growth

We believe a person is judged by their character and the quality of work they produce.

Our school focuses relentlessly on these two crucial areas of development.

Our students express who they are by personalising their work, and are given time to produce beautiful and meaningful work by following a process of multiple drafts and critique, working towards creating products which are indistinguishable from professionals.

Every day, our students develop their habits of work and learning by working hard, getting smart and being kind, and reflecting on our character values of courage, respect, craftsmanship and quality, compassion and integrity.



An authentically tough and rewarding education for everyone

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.

As such, all our students are expected to achieve a minimum of 8 good GCSE passes including English and Maths at grade 4 or better to enable them to obtain a place at a university of their choice.

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 work, achievement, and behaviour.

Our heterogeneous, mixed ability classes achieve more because of their differences. As a result, our school culture is one of trust, respect, responsibility, and joy in learning.



High expectations of all stakeholders

As well as gaining qualifications, our university-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.

Our students are highly engaged learners, motivated to master academic content and produce high quality work. Their learning expeditions - which may result in original scientific reports, presentations to government officials, or urban renewal projects - contribute to the world beyond the classroom. Learning with a purpose helps students develop the academic skills and work ethic that prepare them for university and beyond.

Parents, experts and the wider community are invited to our Celebrations of Learning where students articulately present their finished expedition work. Often, student-crafted products are placed within the community to provide a meaningful function.

Together, we work tirelessly towards academic, career and life readiness.



Character Values as our DNA

Courage

- to put ourselves outside our comfort zone to develop and deepen our learning and character
- to have conviction in our thoughts and feelings and communicate them effectively
- to endeavour to succeed, even though there is a chance of failure

Respect

- to respect ourselves and others
- to work with others despite differences or difficulties
- to show consideration towards other people and our environment

Craftsmanship & Quality

- to always strive to create beautiful work
- to take time and effort to draft, redraft and critique our work
- to aim for a quality in our work that is indistinguishable from professionals

Compassion

- to show understanding, care, love and pride for ourselves and other people
- to be committed to contributing positively to our community
- to help others to achieve

Integrity

- to be self-motivated to achieve our best
- to build resilience, responsibility and a never give up attitude
- to recognise the reasons for failure and, as a result, enhance our chances for success



Habits of Work and Learning (HOWLS)

Work hard

- I arrive for each class on time and prepared.
- I participate fully and mindfully in class.
- I complete all work in a timely manner to the best of my ability.

Get smart

- I take responsibility for my learning by asking questions and seeking help when needed.
- I assess my work based on established criteria and rubrics.
- I welcome feedback and revise my work.

Be kind

- I communicate politely and kindly.
- I work cooperatively with others.
- I take care of resources and materials and act as a steward of our community.



Connect with the world – true partnerships

Our students connect with the world from their first day Outward Bound, and continue to do so with active fieldwork for example at nature reserves, museums, care homes, businesses and universities. This is supported by experts from industry, artists, historians, athletes and ordinary people with extraordinary stories to tell, coming into school to enrich the education for all our students.

As well as this, many organisations allow our school to work smoothly by actively supporting the work we do. We would like to recognise these partners, and many more, for making XP a very special place to be.



How to apply for a place at XP Gateshead

XP Gateshead is an academically rigorous, mainstream secondary school in Gateshead. The school caters for ages 11-16, with 25 students in each class and two classes per year group. The school is being rolled out over five years, starting with XPG's Year 7 in 2021, achieving full capacity of 250 students in 2025.

Our catchment area and oversubscription criteria can be found in our admissions policy. It does not matter how close you live to the school in this catchment area. Each year we expect more applications than we can offer places, so admissions are determined by a random lottery administered independently by the Local Authority.

Our full admissions policy can be viewed at:
xpgateshead.org/how-to-apply-for-a-place-at-xp-gateshead

Our school admissions is handled through the normal Local Authority admissions process as part of their co-ordinated arrangements. This requires parents to complete a common application form (CAF) which is provided by the Local Authority to all applicable parents. Details of how to apply for a place at XP Gateshead are posted to your child's home address.

For further details, please contact **Gateshead Council's School Admissions Team** on **0191 4332757 / 0191 4332756** or schooladmissions@gateshead.gov.uk



Find out all you need to know about XP Trust

XP School Trust
xptrust.org

XP School
xpschool.org

XP East
xpeast.org

XP Gateshead
xpgateshead.org

Green Top School
greentopschool.co.uk

Plover School
ploverschool.co.uk

Norton Infant School
nortoninfantschool.org

Norton Junior School
nortonjuniorschool.org

Carcroft School
carcroftschool.co.uk

'Staff are committed and relentless in their pursuit for culture to be right.'

'The interlinked approach to personal development also means students can talk about how and why they learn as they do, how it will help them in the future, and why it is important.'

'Interpersonal skills are being well developed – students are skilled at listening to others, being respectful and sensitive, as well as in offering advice, critiquing others, and in offering their own opinions and thinking.'

External school review
September 2024



PROSPECTUS



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XP Gateshead is part of the XP Trust.
xptrust.org

XP Trust Curriculum Seams

