

MANCHESTER COMMUNICATION ACADEMY PROSPECTUS

MANCHESTER
COMMUNICATION
ACADEMY



Welcome to Manchester Communication Academy

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Manchester Communication Academy. Thank you for taking the time to read our prospectus. I hope it gives you a real sense of who we are, what we believe in and what your child can expect as part of the MCA family.

Choosing a secondary school is one of the biggest decisions a family makes. You want to know that your child will be happy, safe and known. You want them to achieve academically, discover their talents and leave school ready for the opportunities ahead. At MCA, we are ambitious for every single one of our students and put children at the centre of everything we do.

Our values of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience are at the heart of life at MCA. They shape how we learn, how we treat one another and how we contribute to our school and wider community. We expect our students to work hard, aim high, make good choices and show kindness. Most importantly, we want every young person to know that they belong here, that they matter and that there are people around them who believe in what they can achieve.

Academic success matters enormously to us, but a great education is about much more than examination results. As a Well School, we are committed to helping our students to Lead Well, Live Well and Move Well. We want young people to flourish academically, physically, socially and emotionally, developing the confidence, character and resilience they need for life beyond MCA.

Our students have an incredible range of opportunities to discover what makes them shine. Whether their passion is science, sport, drama, dance, music, cooking, writing, debating, leadership or something they have yet to discover, we want them to get involved, try something new and create memories that last long after they leave us.

It is also an exciting time to join MCA. Our new Heart Centre provides a dedicated environment to support students as they make the important transition into secondary school, helping them to build strong relationships, confidence and a sense of belonging from the very beginning. Our new science facilities, including 11 modern laboratories, give students outstanding spaces in which to investigate, experiment, question and discover. These developments reflect our continued investment in providing our community with the opportunities and facilities our young people deserve.

Starting secondary school can feel like a big step. New buildings, new teachers, new friendships and new expectations can all seem daunting. We understand that. From the moment students arrive, we work hard to ensure they feel welcomed, supported and challenged to become the very best version of themselves.

MCA is more than a school. We are a family, a team and an important part of our local community. Our commitment is captured in the words "With you, for you, about you." They are more than a motto. They describe the relationship we want every child and family to have with our Academy.

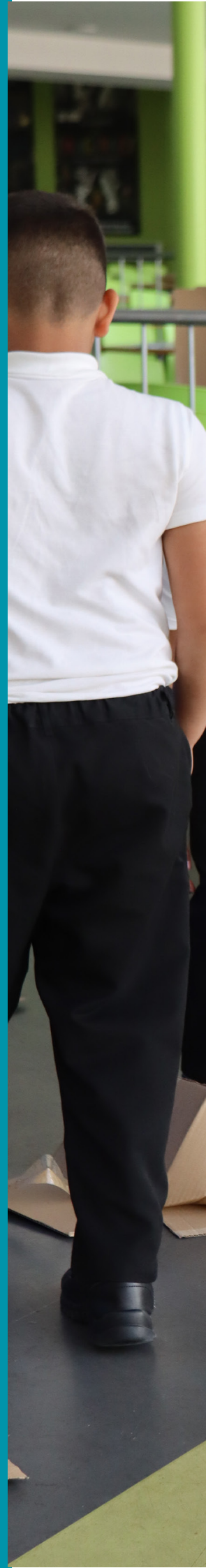
By opening this prospectus, you have taken the first step towards finding out whether MCA could be the right school for your family. I hope, as you explore these pages and visit us, you see a school filled with ambition, opportunity, joy and belonging.

I look forward to meeting you and, hopefully, welcoming you and your child into the MCA family.

Ms Watmough
Headteacher



with you... for you... about you ...





“Pupils feel a strong sense of belonging at this vibrant school, which is at the heart of the community. Pupils are encouraged to take active roles of responsibility both in and outside of the school.”

Ofsted (July 2024)

Dear Year 6 Students,

Your journey into Year 7 is the beginning of something truly special. We realise this step is tricky but we are so excited to support you on your next step.

You have a unique opportunity to enter our Transition Centre- a school built just for you and all of Year 7 — a place where you can feel that you belong from the very beginning. A home where you will discover your strengths, find your voice, build life-long friendships and be inspired to believe in everything you can become.

We want you to bring your heart to everything you do, have hope for what you can achieve, and find happiness in learning, friendship and success.

Our dream is for every student to thrive. Working closely with you and your parents, we will encourage your ambitions, celebrate your achievements and support you when things feel challenging.

We cannot wait to see the person you will become.

Welcome to your next chapter.

Welcome to Year 7.

With very best wishes,

Mr John Rowlands,
Executive Principal.



MEET YOUR YEAR 7 TEAM

Starting secondary school is a big step, but you will never have to navigate it alone!

Our dedicated Year 7 team is here to support you throughout your first year at high school.



Miss Maynard



Mr Mack



Miss Thistlethwaite

Miss Maynard is a Headteacher employed across the Trust and leads the Year 7 Centre alongside Ms Watmough. Additionally Mr Mack is our Director of Pastoral Care for Year 7 & Miss Thistlethwaite, Head of Year, works closely with our fantastic team of dedicated support staff who are based within the Year 7 Centre.

Together, this resident team will get to know you, support you with your learning, friendships, organisation and wellbeing and help you to settle confidently into life at secondary school. Whatever you need during your first year, there will always be someone in the Year 7 team ready to listen, help and guide you.





YEAR 7 CENTRE

Our new Year 7 Centre for Learning opened in September 2026, giving our youngest students a dedicated home as they begin life at Manchester Communication Academy.

A confident start

Moving from primary to secondary school is a big step. Our purpose-built centre provides a welcoming base where students can build friendships, become familiar with new routines and grow in confidence, with support close at hand.

Space to learn and create

Modern classrooms provide calm, organised spaces for focused learning. Specialist food technology and design and technology facilities bring learning to life, helping students develop practical skills, explore ideas and take pride in what they make.

Support as Independence grows

The centre brings teaching and pastoral support together, helping staff get to know each child and respond to their needs. Students have a base of their own while enjoying the wider opportunities and specialist facilities available across MCA.

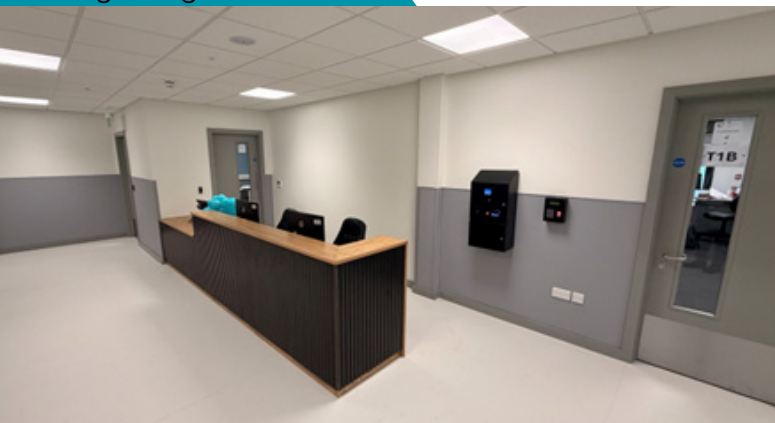
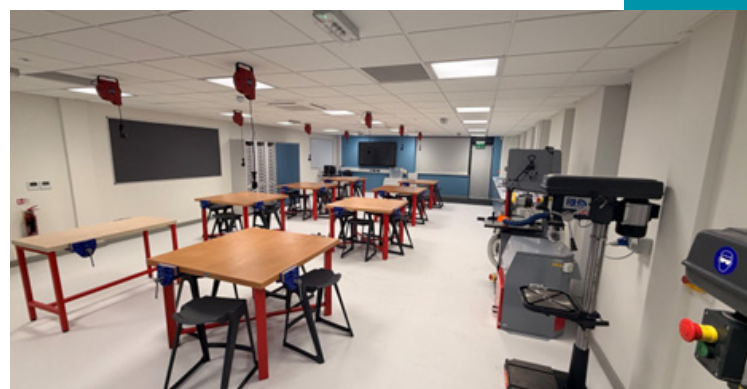
A planned Journey through MCA

The centre is the first stage of our two-year transition approach. Students move on to a dedicated Year 8 base, building independence gradually while continuing to feel part of a supportive school community. The second project is a state-of-the-art science block, featuring new science labs to complement our innovative science curriculum.

We are committed to providing our students with the very best resources to ensure that our curriculum can be delivered in the most successful way possible and we are looking forward to having both developments as part of our ever growing school.



New building...



New student services...



New classrooms...



SCIENCE AT MCA

Our new Science block opened in September 2026, providing 11 specialist laboratories for students from Year 7 to Year 11. These facilities support an ambitious science curriculum and give students inspiring spaces in which to explore how the world works.

Learning through investigation

Purpose-built laboratories allow students to put scientific ideas into practice. Through experiments and investigations, they can make predictions, observe changes, gather evidence and use their findings to deepen their understanding of biology, chemistry and physics.

Skills that reach beyond science

Practical science develops careful thinking, problem-solving and teamwork. Students learn to work safely, measure accurately, evaluate results and explain their reasoning clearly. These skills support learning across the curriculum and prepare young people for further study and employment.

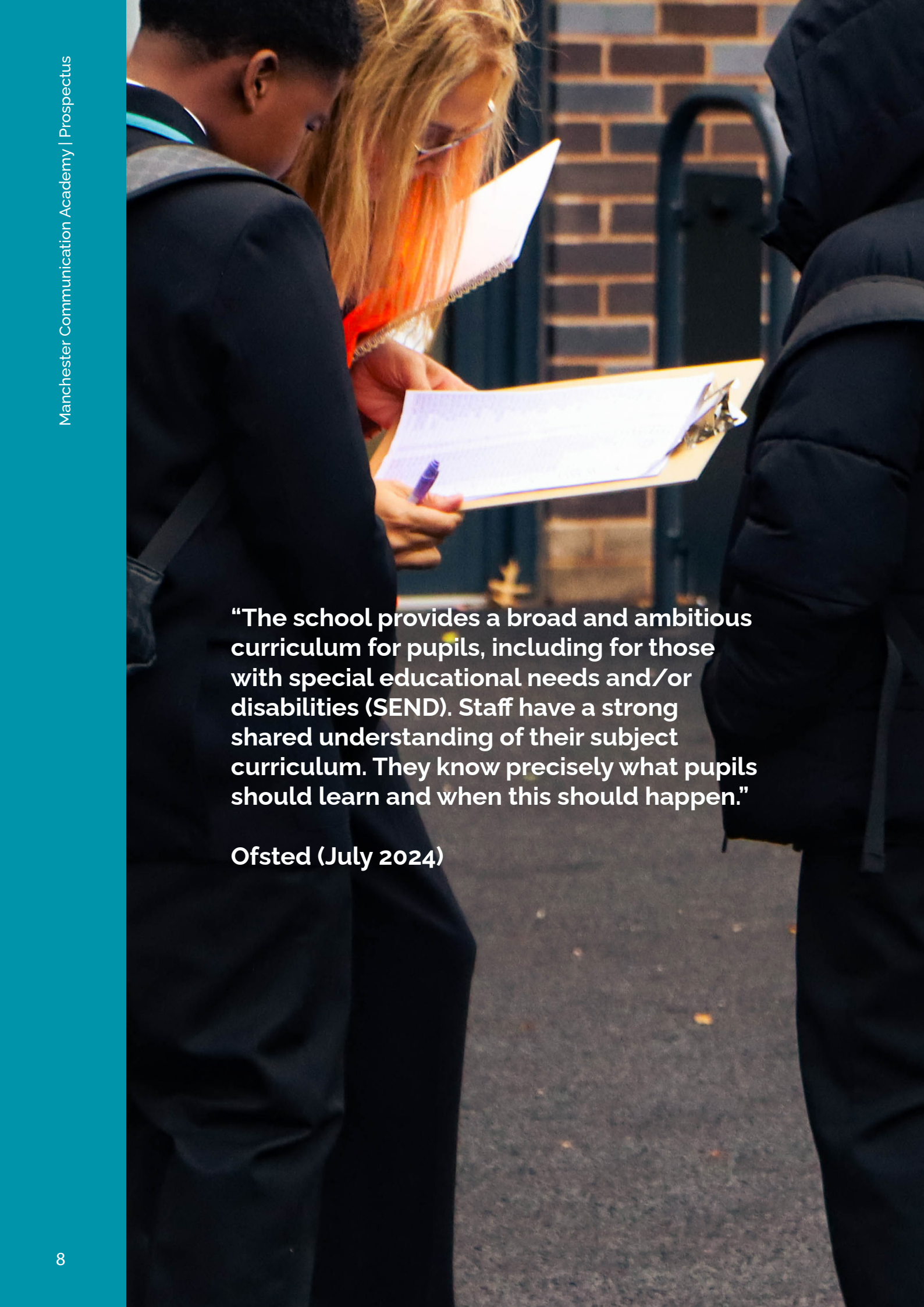
Designed for purposeful learning

Specialist fitted furniture, practical workspaces and dedicated preparation facilities support well-organised lessons. The new environment enables teachers to combine explanation, demonstration and hands-on learning, helping students connect scientific theory with real experiences.

Building ambition

From their first experiments in Year 7 to more demanding work at GCSE, students can develop confidence in science and discover where it might take them. Our new laboratories support that journey and encourage interest in future pathways in science, technology, engineering and medicine.





“The school provides a broad and ambitious curriculum for pupils, including for those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Staff have a strong shared understanding of their subject curriculum. They know precisely what pupils should learn and when this should happen.”

Ofsted (July 2024)

We are with you...

Moving from primary to secondary school is a landmark event in every young person's life. To make the transition between these two phases of education seamless, we ensure that your child already feels a part of the MCA family well before they start in year 7.

It is crucial to us that these relationships are forged before students start so that there are some friendly faces they will recognise when they arrive. Your child may have attended Urban Crew, clubs or our holiday camps so they are used to the building and how to navigate themselves in school.

We hope that in the summer term students can attend one of our transition weeks, where they will be welcomed into the Academy so that they feel confident with the step up to secondary education. During these weeks students will meet

their progress leaders and their future classmates whilst experiencing an exciting curriculum that gives them an insight into secondary school life.

If your child has additional needs or English as a second language they will be welcomed to the Academy before the transition weeks to meet key staff. Our future students and their families will have a longer transition programme supported by key workers that will be best placed to meet any additional needs.

SCHOOL VALUES

At MCA, we are proud to foster a culture built on the core values of:



RESPECT



RESPONSIBILITY



RESILIENCE

We believe that respect is the foundation for a harmonious and inclusive community, where students value the diverse perspectives of others. Resilience is nurtured through challenges, encouraging our students to persevere, adapt, and thrive. Responsibility empowers each individual to take ownership of their actions, fostering accountability both in their learning and personal development. Together, these values prepare our students to become well-rounded, confident, and compassionate individuals ready to succeed.



“Classrooms are calm and orderly environments where pupils are typically attentive to their teachers and focus well on their learning activities.”

Ofsted (July 2024)

WE CARE... WE ARE ABOUT YOU

Manchester Communication Academy works on the principle that every child can be successful by providing an exciting and challenging experience for all our students in a caring and supportive environment. Every student has a progress leader who is the main point of contact for the child and their families. The progress leaders will make regular contact with families and provide necessary support to ensure that your child is happy, healthy and on track to make the best possible progress. Students will also have regular contact with their head of year who will offer any additional support needed.

Every Monday, students have an Aspire lesson with their progress leader as they develop new skills needed to succeed at school and beyond. MCA has a child-centred and supportive Pastoral Team who offer care to students and families who may need a more personalised approach.

Family support

As a parent or carer of an MCA student we hope that you too will feel part of our MCA family. The Family Partnerships team is here to get to know you. We recognise that families can often be facing challenges that could impact on their child in school so it is important to us that we are here to listen and understand. We work closely with other organisations across Manchester to provide signposting and information for a wide range of issues including housing, immigration, training and finance.

Uniform

At our school, we take pride in our smart and practical uniform, which reflects our high standards and sense of community. We are pleased to support families by providing all Year 7 students with the following items free of charge: School blazer, Year 7 tie, PE top. These items will be issued via a voucher system, which can be redeemed at our designated uniform supplier. Parents and carers will be responsible for providing the remaining uniform items, as outlined below.

Full Uniform List

*Blazer**

Must be worn at all times during the school day unless a teacher gives permission to remove it.

Shirt or Blouse

Plain white with a collar. Shirts should be tucked in neatly at all times.

*School Tie**

Year 7 students wear a distinctive tie, which should be worn properly with the top button fastened.

Trousers or Skirt/Shorts**

Plain black tailored trousers or a black skirt. Stretchy materials such as lycra are not permitted.

Socks

Plain black socks only.

Shoes

Smart, plain black shoes suitable for school. Trainers, sports shoes or branded footwear are not allowed.

Bags

All students are required to have a backpack - any colour.

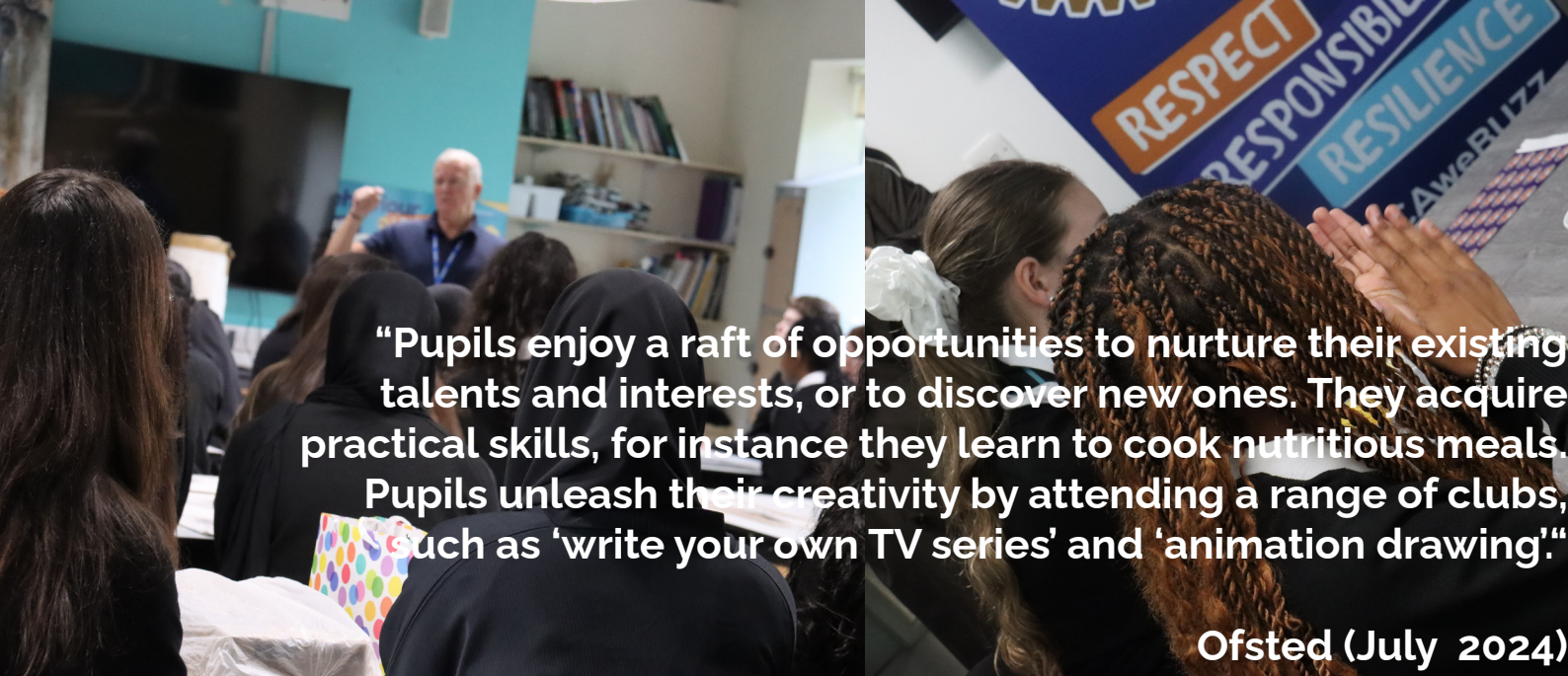
* These are all branded items, an optional branded jumper is also available.

We believe our uniform is both smart and cost-effective, helping students to feel part of a focused and respectful learning environment.

School Rules

At MCA we have three school rules that encompass our vision and values. These are simple yet clear rules for all members of the MCA community allowing teachers to provide students with the education that they deserve. The three school rules are:

1. Put your learning first
2. Respect the building and everyone in it
3. Follow the instructions of the MCA staff team



“Pupils enjoy a raft of opportunities to nurture their existing talents and interests, or to discover new ones. They acquire practical skills, for instance they learn to cook nutritious meals. Pupils unleash their creativity by attending a range of clubs, such as ‘write your own TV series’ and ‘animation drawing’.”

Ofsted (July 2024)

ATTENDANCE

At MCA, we know that starting secondary school is a big step, and one of the best ways for children to settle in and succeed is through excellent attendance. We set a clear but supportive expectation of at least 97% attendance, because being in school every day makes a real difference. It means your child won't miss out on lessons, experiences, or opportunities to grow in confidence and independence.

Being on time is just as important as being present. Our school day begins at 8:20am, and we ask all students to be in school by then so they are ready to learn. Arriving punctually helps children start the day calmly, keeps lessons running smoothly, and teaches valuable life skills about organisation and responsibility. Even being a few minutes late can mean missing key learning or important notices, so we work closely with families to build good routines around the morning start.

Daily Lateness	Minutes Lost per Year	Hours Lost	Equivalent School Days
5 minutes	950 minutes	15 hrs 50 mins	2 days
15 minutes	2,850 minutes	47 hrs 30 mins	8 days
30 minutes	5,700 minutes	95 hrs	16 days

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Research shows a very clear link between attendance and GCSE outcomes. Students with 97% attendance or higher achieve the strongest results, while those with lower attendance often struggle to reach their full potential. For example:

Attendance	Days Missed	Weeks Missed	Likely Impact
97%	5 days	1 week	Excellent progress possible
95%	10 days	2 weeks	Progress starts to be affected
90%	20 days	4 weeks	One GCSE grade lower on average
85%	30 days	6 weeks	Serious risk of underachievement

We know that absence due to illness may sometimes be unavoidable, and we encourage open communication so we can support families if challenges arise. By working together on attendance and punctuality, we create a strong message for our students: that their education matters, that every day counts, and that they are capable of achieving great things at MCA and beyond.

with you... for you... about you ...

GOING BEYOND

Beyond... the classroom

Outside of curriculum lessons, MCA has a vast offer of activities for students to engage in. After the school day students have an opportunity to participate in clubs including sport, cooking, engineering, textiles, art, reading, planting, mystery, board games, learning a new language, guitar, drumming, magazine club and many more. We have 69 clubs on offer for our students, of which they have to attend two a week. MCA's wide offer means that there is something for everyone.

At Manchester Communication Academy, we want every student to leave us with more than great qualifications. THRIVE is our Personal Development journey, designed to give every young person the experiences, skills and confidence they need to succeed at MCA and beyond. From Year 7 to Year 11, students complete a range of challenges both inside and outside the classroom. These encourage students to try something new, develop their talents, contribute to their community, take on leadership opportunities and prepare for their future. As

students progress through MCA, their THRIVE journey grows with them. They work towards Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum recognition by completing experiences across subjects, enrichment, careers, volunteering, leadership and wider academy life.

Underpinning the journey are our MCA values of Respect, Resilience and Responsibility, helping students develop the character, independence and ambition to make the most of every opportunity. THRIVE is about experiences beyond the classroom, developing the whole person and ensuring every MCA student leaves ready to take their next step with confidence.

Beyond... yourself

It is important that our students have a breadth of opportunities, knowledge and experiences that will develop a range of skills shaping them into valuable young men and women that will contribute to our society.

The Aspire curriculum is one vehicle that allows us to achieve this. We want students to express their views, step out of their comfort zones, challenge themselves and demonstrate resilience to overcome challenges they may face now and in life after MCA. We utilise a wide range of specialists both within and outside of the Academy to deliver this offer which includes students attending University visits and taking part in workshops.

Our Aspire curriculum is designed not only to develop their knowledge, but to develop a range of values. It is also important for us to ensure that we are a school that prioritises and enhances the health and wellbeing of all of our students. We strive to develop healthy minds and healthy bodies.

Beyond... your comfort

Students at MCA are offered the opportunity to complete a Duke of Edinburgh Award. This is a great opportunity for students to step out of their comfort zones and spend a year completing the Award. Students build on a range of skills that they would not necessarily gain in the classroom and get to use them at the end of the year when they complete an overnight camping expedition. Students say that they feel more confident, are more resilient, and gain a great sense of independence from completing the Award.

Beyond... Manchester

At MCA, we believe that a broad and rich education does not just happen within school. Instead, students should have the opportunities to explore the world beyond the classroom, enriching and consolidating their subject knowledge, but also developing cultural awareness and skills that will equip them for future life. Equally, we believe education should be enjoyable and memorable!

Through our trips offer we aim to create these unforgettable moments. In KS3, all students will have the opportunity to attend an overseas excursion with the global understanding faculty. This may be to France or Spain as part of the modern foreign languages curriculum where students will practise their language skills with native speakers and in real life situations as well as eating local food and exploring vibrant cities. Students in Year 7 will be invited to attend an Aspire outdoor pursuits excursion that allows them to build new friendships, challenge themselves with exciting physical activities, develop their team building skills and their confidence.

Throughout their time at MCA, students will be invited to attend a range of theatre trips, visits to galleries, and to attend high profile sports events. There are many more visits throughout the year that allow students to test their skills in real life contexts, making learning meaningful but also lots of fun! MCA is fully committed to ensuring all students have equal opportunities to experience these exciting and valuable off-site experiences and as such we aim to provide financial support so that all trips are accessible to all students.

“Staff frequently check that pupils understand and remember what they have learned. This means that pupils’ learning builds securely on what they already know.”

Ofsted (July 2024)



OUR MCA... IN OUR OWN WORDS

Here at MCA, we have 30 minutes of form time each day, where we receive regular messages, assemblies and key notices from our progress leader who look after us throughout the year. This is valuable time as you get to build a strong rapport with your progress leader and if you need to ever speak to a member of staff, they are there for you. During form time, you may also take part in a 'votes for schools' lesson where you get the opportunity to, as a group, discuss topical issues which are happening in our society and affect us the most. At the end of each lesson, we place a vote making sure that our voices on these important issues are heard.

Finally, we have 20 minutes of whole school 'reading time' each day. This is really important to every student at MCA as not only does it improve our vital reading skills, but it exposes us to a range of different texts. These texts have often encouraged us to read outside of our usual reading genres and this is incredibly satisfying as it broadens our horizons.

We always look forward to our health and wellbeing lessons, which are designed to help us to feel good about ourselves and unwind, they are always fun and engaging! Students rotate around different areas of this course such as PE, where we partake in physical exercise and get to participate in games which promote our leadership and team building skills. Cooking is another great subject within this scheme - we learn how to make healthy, inexpensive meals. Art and photography is great for creativity and expression. Finally, dance helps us to let go of any stresses and lets our bodies move freely.

STARTING SECONDARY SCHOOL: WHAT TO EXPECT

"MCA is a very welcoming school that starts teaching the values of respect, responsibility, and resilience."

- **Khadija, Y7**

"Dear Year 5 and 6 students, I understand that you're worried about secondary school but don't be! MCA is absolutely amazing (and I've only been here for about three weeks). There's so many opportunities to shine and be who you are, not who people want you to be. MCA is a place that opens up your brain and shows your dreams again, not someone else's."

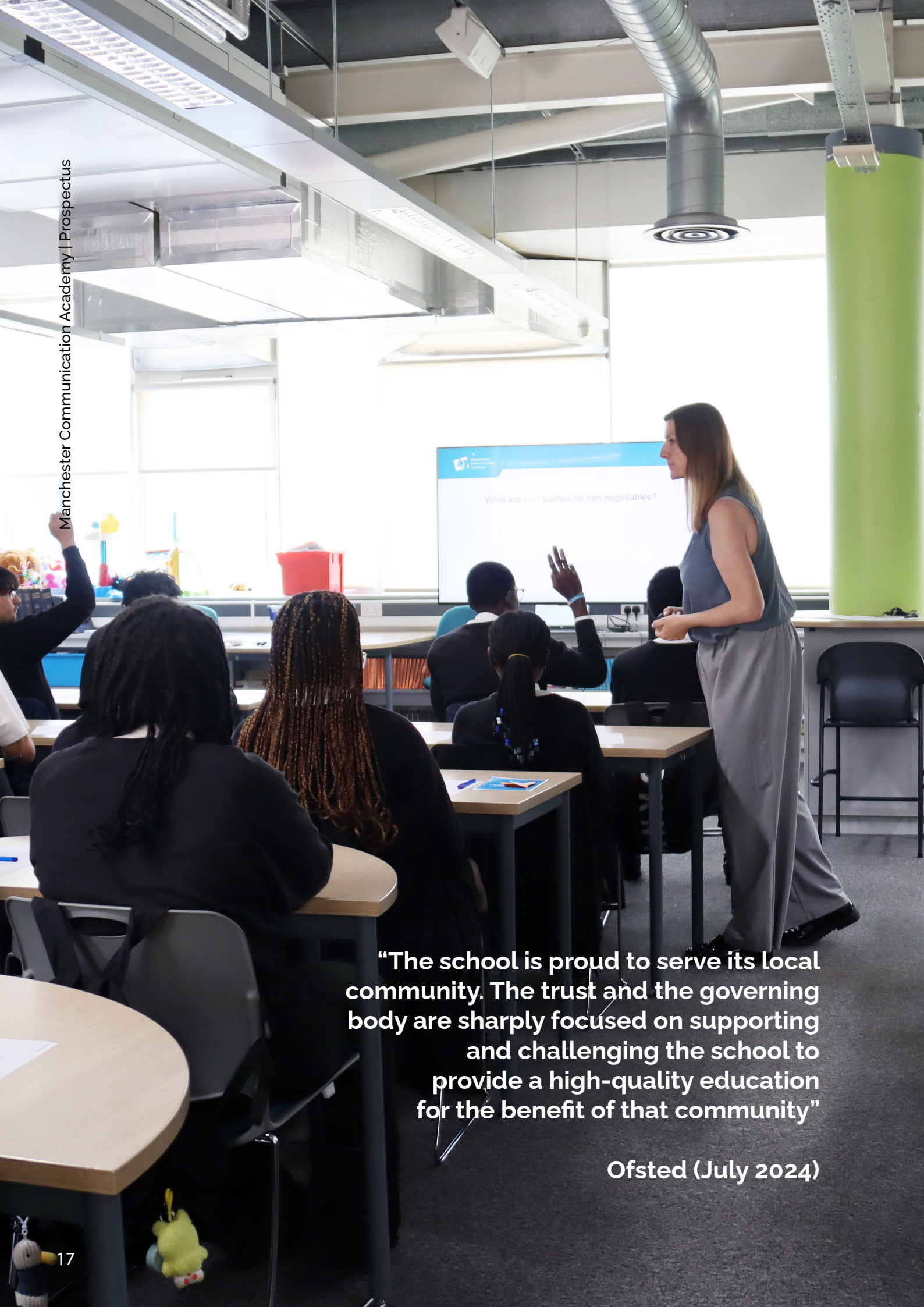
- **Ohema, Y7**

"The reason you should come here, to this brand-new Year 7, is because you will get the best teachers, best learning, and the best goals in your GCSEs! And also the best friends. Come and visit for the best opportunities!"

- **Macaty, Y7**

"They have a free breakfast club and they have very fun after school clubs. You can always have free waffles every Friday. If you're early, they have lots of support and the teachers will guide you."

- **Isreal, Y7**



"The school is proud to serve its local community. The trust and the governing body are sharply focused on supporting and challenging the school to provide a high-quality education for the benefit of that community"

Ofsted (July 2024)

Leaders of Tomorrow

MCA's student leadership programme is a great opportunity for our young people to develop the necessary skills to be tomorrow's leaders. Communication, teamwork and problem solving capabilities are essential requirements for employers and are developed through this programme. We believe that every student has the potential to be a leader and this plays an integral part to our success. Student leadership allows students to give something back to the Academy by supporting staff and modelling our values for other students.

Prefects

In years 10 and 11 students are given the opportunity to become prefects. Students complete a written application which allows them to share and celebrate their qualities. Prefects are our role models and demonstrate how to meet our high expectations. They assist with whole school events, theme days and community events. Being a prefect gives students the opportunity to build confidence, communication, independence, problem solving, organisation and much more. In addition they have the opportunity to complete a leadership award that recognises this development. All prefects receive a unique tie different to other students that allows them to stand out. Prefects in year 11 have the opportunity to apply for the prestigious role of Head Prefect or Deputy Head Prefect

Guardian Angels

The Guardian Angels are students who are trained to support and mentor our Year 7 peers, taking on a role of responsibility within the school community. This programme encourages active student participation and promotes a supportive environment where older students help and guide their younger classmates. They attend form once a week to plan activities to deliver with their form group and build relationships. They are a young voice to speak to if they have any concerns. For the leaders, it's an opportunity to gain a sense of responsibility and foster a positive and supportive environment for students.

Sports Leaders

Sports leaders learn and demonstrate important life skills such as effective communication and organisation whilst learning to lead basic physical activities to younger pupils, their peers or within the community. MCA sports leaders are the driving force behind increasing physical activity during extra-curricular time and offering students the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of sporting avenues such as involvement in; Manchester School Games, Sport Relief, National School Sports Week and transition

activities. In addition, students are given the opportunity to complete leadership seminars, awards and certificates to further develop their skills and competencies.

Youth Travel Ambassadors

Our Youth Travel Ambassadors play an important role in helping to make journeys to and from school safer, healthier and more sustainable. Our ambassadors are given the opportunity to develop their leadership, communication and teamwork skills by promoting positive travel choices across the academy. They help raise awareness of road safety, encourage active travel such as walking and cycling, and support campaigns and activities that help our students make responsible choices when travelling within their local community. Being a Student Travel Ambassador gives young people a genuine voice and leadership role within MCA, empowering them to influence positive change while developing valuable skills and confidence for the future.

Student Council and Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

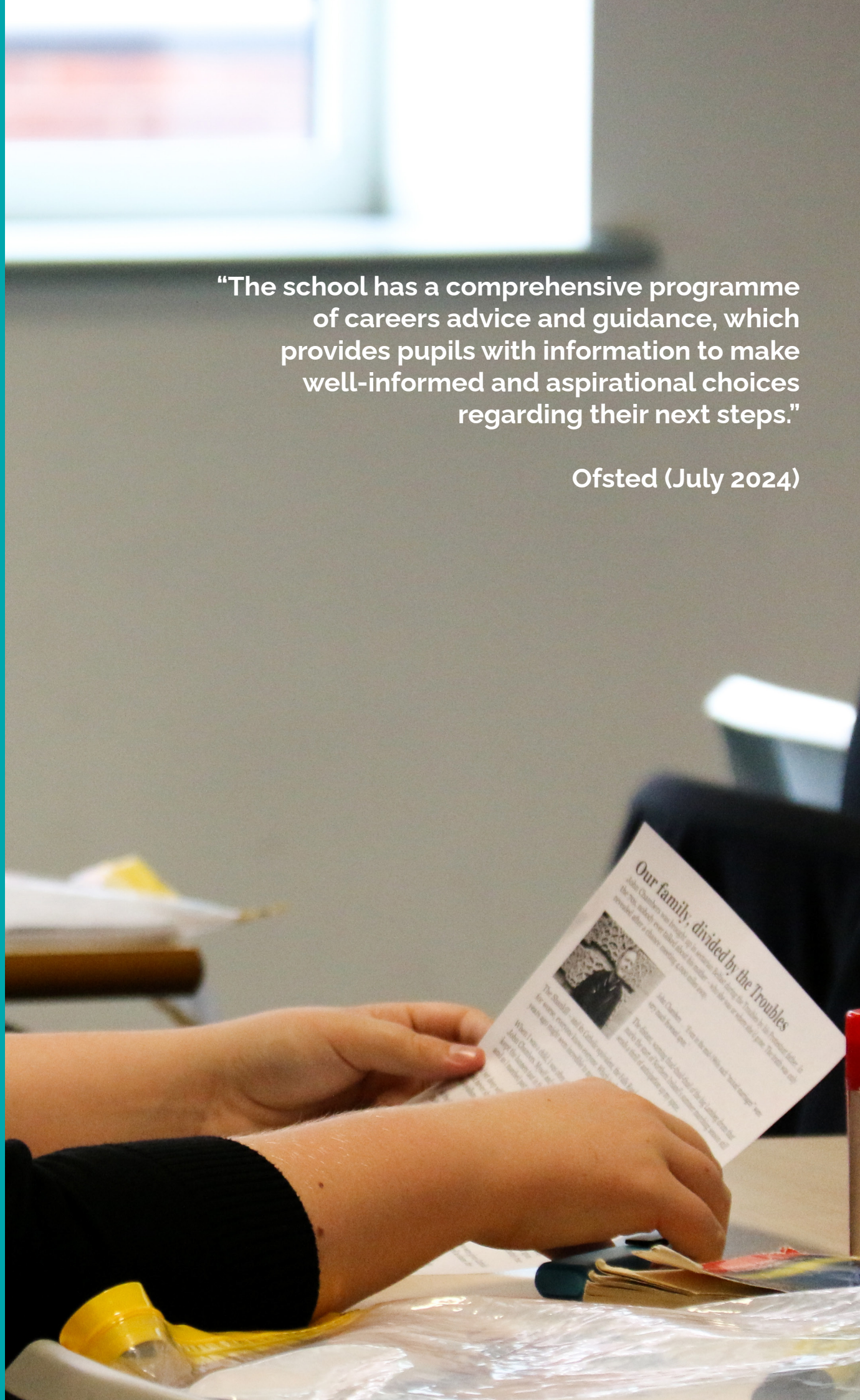
The school council is a vehicle to give students a voice in how to shape the school for the future. The council meet with the senior leaders in the school to feedback on the curriculum, the environment and opportunities for our young people. The council have now teamed up with the Anti-Bullying ambassadors and we work towards achieving recognised awards for the school. These badges are awarded by the Diana Award and encourage students to be creative in making the school a safer and better place for all. Both the student council and Anti-bullying ambassadors work simultaneously to create, shape and build a happier environment for future generations.

Student House Champions

Our House Champions are students from every year group who proudly represent their House (Cooper, Marconi, Olympic, Shakespeare and Turing) and act as positive role models across the academy. House Champions help build a strong sense of belonging, identity and team spirit, encouraging every member of their House to get involved and make the most of academy life. They champion excellent attendance, promote participation in House competitions and events, celebrate the achievements of others and motivate students to earn points and contribute to the success of their House. This important leadership role gives students the opportunity to develop their confidence, communication, teamwork and leadership skills, while helping ensure that every student feels part of something bigger.

“The school has a comprehensive programme of careers advice and guidance, which provides pupils with information to make well-informed and aspirational choices regarding their next steps.”

Ofsted (July 2024)



TOWARDS YOUR FUTURE...

We have high hopes for you

At MCA we are committed to ensuring our students gain an outstanding offer of careers education advice and guidance. We use real time Labour Market Information (LMI) and a broad range of partners to inform students of future career opportunities and ensure our programme is consistently reviewed and shaped to respond to the changing labour market.

The curriculum offer at MCA is enriched by a broad range of partners from key and emerging industries, providing students the opportunity to make meaningful contacts with employers and attend workplace safaris that support high expectations and aspirations around the world of work.

Our comprehensive programme of careers provision develops knowledge and skills throughout Key Stages 3 and 4, to help support students in making informed decisions that form the very foundations of their future. Just as the transition to high school can be challenging, so can the transition beyond and we strive to ensure that the key stage 4 careers curriculum equips students with the necessary skills, behaviours and confidence to successfully navigate through an ever evolving economic world.

An instrumental part of Key Stage 4 sees all students have a number of encounters with further and higher education institutions. In addition, all students receive one-to-one impartial careers advice interviews that involves the creation of a

personalised action plan centred around their potential careers and pathways. Students are given outstanding support from our progress leaders, careers team and partner organisations based on their individual needs and interests, which readily supports the application process for either their further education or apprenticeship choices.

We want every student to feel informed, ambitious and confident about their future. All students have access to Unifrog, an online careers platform that supports them in exploring the wide range of opportunities available beyond MCA. Through Unifrog, students can explore careers, colleges, sixth forms, apprenticeships, universities and other Post-16 pathways, helping them understand the different routes available and make informed decisions about their next steps. Students can also access up-to-date Labour Market Information (LMI), allowing them to investigate different job sectors, expected salaries, required qualifications and skills, and future employment opportunities. They can record their activities, skills and experiences throughout their time at MCA, building a valuable picture of their personal development and career journey.

Parents and carers can also engage with Unifrog, providing an excellent opportunity for families to explore careers and Post-16 choices together and have informed conversations about future aspirations. Unifrog helps our students explore what is possible, understand how to get there and make informed choices for their future.

THE ASPIRE CURRICULUM

Where will it take you?

The Aspire curriculum is designed to make the students of MCA be positive members of society in modern Britain. We enable our students to become healthy and independent members of the Manchester community allowing them to understand how they are developing personally and socially, equipping them with the skills to tackle moral, social and cultural issues in life. We challenge our students to apply the skills they learn within and beyond the school.

We focus on developing key skills for life which are important to students now and in the future:

- Problem Solving
- Self Management
- Self Belief
- Teamwork
- Communication

"Staff frequently check that pupils understand and remember what they have learned. This means that pupils' learning builds securely on what they already know."

Ofsted (July 2024)



What makes the MCA curriculum unique?

At MCA, we are committed to fostering our key values of resilience, respect, and responsibility in every area of school life. These values are embedded within our curriculum. Our holistic approach to education ensures that each child is developed morally, socially, physically, and academically, with a focus on well-being to positively impact their overall attainment and achievement.

Health & Wellbeing

Our health and wellbeing offer, including PE, RE, Dance, and Food, supports students in developing healthy bodies and minds. These subjects instil responsibility by encouraging students to take an interest and encourage investment in their personal and physical development. Our Aspire curriculum also teaches students to be respectful and informed members of society, tackling moral, social, and cultural issues with confidence.

Arts Curriculum

We provide a broad and dynamic Arts curriculum, where every student is given the opportunity to explore a wide range of subjects such as Art, Design, Photography, Textiles,

Drama, and Music. Our state-of-the-art equipment, including glass and clay kilns, sewing machines, laser cutters, and 3D printers, allows students to develop their creative skills while building resilience through practice and dedication. Participation in performing arts showcases and music lessons cultivates respect for the arts and encourages students to express themselves in a supportive environment.

STEM

Our Maths curriculum is designed to develop resilience in problem-solving and reasoning. Students are supported in mastering complex challenges in a rich, diverse, text-based environment, preparing them for future success. Similarly, our Science laboratories provide students with opportunities to nurture their practical skills, developing both critical thinking and responsibility. Our innovative Science curriculum aims to ignite curiosity within our students and develop a life-long interest in discovery and exploration.



“Pupils are particularly proud of the diversity within their school. They eagerly anticipate opportunities to celebrate their rich cultural heritages, for example during ‘culture day’. Pupils learn to embrace and value differences between themselves and others.”

Ofsted (July 2024)

Languages

Language skills are highly valued at MCA. We celebrate and encourage multilingualism, recognising the responsibility that comes with effective communication in an increasingly interconnected world. At KS4, we offer students the chance to study a range of languages and work with students to make an array of language qualifications accessible and enjoyable.

In English, we emphasise the importance of understanding diverse perspectives and expressing ideas effectively. Our curriculum promotes respect for literature and encourages students to read widely, both for pleasure and academic growth. Reading strategies are also embedded across the curriculum, allowing students to access challenging texts and become well-rounded, thoughtful individuals.

Our Aim

At MCA, we believe that developing resilience is key to tackling the challenges of an ever-changing world. Our well-qualified subject specialists are dedicated to creating an enjoyable, supportive learning environment that prepares students for the next steps in their educational journey. We aim to ensure that each student leaves MCA not only academically prepared but also grounded in the values of respect, responsibility, and resilience - values that will guide them beyond school and throughout their lives.







“You’re off to great places! Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting, So... get on your way!” - Dr. Seuss



WHY YOU SHOULD CHOOSE Manchester Communication Academy?



Manchester Communication Research School

As part of the Research Schools network we provide training and support for schools, informed by the latest EEF.



Ofsted Rated as A Good School

The school were rated as 'Good' overall, in our 2024 inspection, and gained 'Outstanding' status for students' personal development.



Extra Curricular Activities (ESA)

Our extensive extra-curricular programme offers students a wide range of opportunities to share their interests, learn new skills and develop important life skills.



Multicultural and Bilingual Community

We are extremely passionate about promoting the languages within our community. We see speaking other languages as being an invaluable asset to both student and to our school.



A wide Scope of Opportunities

Children are afforded a wide range of opportunities which take their learning beyond the classroom such as away from home trips...



Reading Inspiration

Students have 15 minutes daily reading time at the start of each afternoon and we encourage all of our students to read as much and as widely as possible.



Free Uniform and Pe Kit For Y7

We are proud to support our families by providing every Year 7 student with a free school blazer, Year 7 tie and PE top, helping students start life at MCA looking smart and ready to learn.



Excellent Pastoral Care

Students receive high levels of pastoral care and support as recognised in our recent Ofsted report (July 2024)



A Dedication to Teaching

As a National Research School, Teaching and Learning is evidence informed ensuring all students experience the highest quality of lessons.



Striving to Achieving Success

MCA has been in the Top 20% of schools nationally for progress performance for the last two years.

How to Apply

To apply for a place at MCA please visit:

<https://www.manchester.gov.uk/schools-education-and-childcare/school-admissions/secondary-school-admissions/how-to-apply2>

You will need to set up an account on this site if you do not have one.

Once you are logged in you will be able to submit an application for Manchester Communication Academy.

You will be given the option to apply for 3 schools using the one form.

If you require support and wish to come into school please email:
admissions@mca.manchester.sch.uk

The deadline for receiving help with the application in school is:
Friday 16th October

The deadline for submitting the applications:
Friday 30th October

Please input all of the required information onto the form.

If your child lives in another local authority, please apply for school places through the Council that you pay your council tax to, even if you wish to apply for a school that comes under Manchester City Council.

If you need any support completing your online application,
please contact us.

For further information please visit the transition section of our website.





Manchester Communication Academy

with you ... for you ... about you ...

Website: manchestercommunicationacademy.com

Social Media: @gmacademiestrust

Queries: Miss McMahon

Address: Silchester Dr, Harpurhey, Manchester, M40 8NT

Phone Number: 0161 202 0161

Email: admin@mca.manchester.sch.uk