



Our School



Be INSPIRED.
Be OUTSTANDING.
Be BREDA.

WELCOME TO BREDACADEMY



Welcome from the Principal

Our School Community!

Breda Academy is a vibrant and flourishing school community in its 10th year which continues to grow and build on our enduring achievements and move from strength to strength! As the Principal I am honoured to be leading this vibrant, diverse, and successful all-ability school in South Belfast with 825 students aged 11 to 19 and 95 members of staff. We pride ourselves on being a welcoming, warm, friendly, and caring school where we place a very high value on establishing and nurturing strong positive relationships between students, staff, and parents/carers.

Students are expected to be safe, polite, and ready to learn and develop core values and behaviours such as respect, responsibility, charity, and kindness, as we give these 'values' equal importance to attaining academic results. Developing these values will also help our students to be more open minded, tolerant, forgiving, supportive, and caring of each other regardless of gender, background, ethnicity, culture and/or religion.

We take pride in celebrating the many talents and achievements of our students, and in particular reward their effort and positive attitude, and encourage them to learn from their mistakes, as it is our central belief that much can be accomplished through hard work and by not giving up.

Therefore, I am especially pleased that in the past seven years, due to the combined hard work and resilience of our students and staff, our examination results have continued to increase significantly. In the past three years over 300 Year 12 students have achieved a combined set of record-breaking results with 96% of them achieving 5 or more A* - C GCSEs or L2 equivalent grades, and our year 14 students have also produced much success with a record breaking 78% of them achieving 3 A* to C A-Level or equivalent Level 3 grades in August 2024.

We continue to expand as a community and in September we welcomed 115 new Year 8 students who are now flourishing and enjoying school life. We are very proud that the Academy offers all students a 7-year learning journey and our 6th Form continues to

grow and thrive, and we currently have a record 180 Year 13 and 14 students studying A-Level and Level 3 qualifications and taking advantage of our new study centre with its advanced ICT facilities and a full-time member of staff as their study supervisor.

We place our students at the heart of all we do and provide them with excellent pastoral care to promote their wellbeing, tailored support to meet their needs and high-quality teaching to ensure they make continual progress in each key stage of their learning. The Academy provides an inclusive and diverse curriculum and a wide range of qualifications and enrichment opportunities to develop our students' education, skills, and resilience to be successful lifelong learners, confident individuals, and responsible citizens.

It is our ambition at Breda Academy that students are 'Learners Today and Leaders Tomorrow' and when they leave us, they will go on to be future change makers and take an active role in shaping and making Northern Ireland and the world a better place for us all. To quote John F Kennedy the 35th President of America; "Children are the world's most valuable resource and its best hope for the future."



Please come and join our community!

Mr P Perry - PGDH, MA, BSc, PGCE
Principal
#proudtobebreda



OUR MISSION

PURPOSE OF OUR SCHOOL - VISION

To provide students with High Quality Learning and Teaching and an inclusive and enriching educational experience delivered through broad and balanced curriculum pathways, which develop knowledge, understanding, and skills to enable progress at each stage of learning and prepare them to attain qualifications for further education and career opportunities.

SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL'S PURPOSE – MISSION

To provide our diverse community of students with support, guidance, and advice to build resilience for meeting the challenges they may face in their life and society and to help meet their needs and encourage a safe and caring environment where developing and nurturing positive relationships is at the centre of all that we do.

PROMOTING OUR MISSION - ETHOS

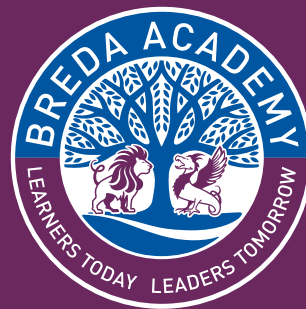
We actively promote and foster a positive behaviour for learning culture of expectation that everyone in our community should work hard, try their best, never give up, and behave in a responsible manner by displaying consideration, understanding, courtesy, tolerance, cooperation, and respect for all in our community.

SETTING THE CULTURE - EXPECTATIONS

The culture for our students is set with high expectations regarding their attitudes and conduct. We expect students to;



SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM



MRS SCOTT

(Vice Principal Pastoral – Access to Learning and Inclusion)

I am proud to work with an enthusiastic, dedicated, and hard-working Pastoral Team who encourage and support our students to ensure they achieve their very best while enjoying all Breda Academy has to offer. I have overall responsibility for our SEN and Newcomer students and work with a dedicated team of specialist teaching staff and teaching assistants to provide the additional learning support and pastoral care some of our students need to fulfill their potential. As Designated Teacher for Child Protection, I lead the Safeguarding Team and I also have overall responsibility for student wellbeing, working with outside agencies and our pastoral leaders, to ensure that all our students are supported in their learning.

MS MCMULLAN

(Senior Teacher - Data and Systems)

I oversee both Data and Systems and Student Attendance. Our focus is on ensuring that students' progress in learning and attendance at school are closely tracked so that any barriers to their success can be quickly identified and addressed. I am also a member of our Safeguarding Team (Deputy Designated Teacher), which safeguards and promotes the welfare of all our students.

MS FERGUSON

(Senior Teacher - Key Stage 5, CEIAG and Community Liaisons)

I work closely with staff, students and the local community to enhance the school profile and provide further opportunities for all students. We are pleased to provide progression into Sixth Form where we offer a diverse range of academic and vocational courses to ensure all students receive the support required on their pathway to becoming independent, lifelong learners. Our Careers programme aims to prepare all our students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of working life in the 21st Century.

MR ARMSTRONG

(Senior Teacher - Teaching, Learning and Progress)

At Breda Academy we take pride in getting to know each student as an individual so that we can make sure that they each have the best possible access to success and opportunity in the future. This child centered, learning focused approach, is underpinned by the positive ethos, culture and values of our school community. I oversee Teaching, Learning and Progress. I work with amazing staff at Breda to ensure continuity and progression in learning and high expectations for all students.

MR MCCONVILLE

(Senior Teacher – Curriculum and Timetabling)

I oversee our learning pathways at Key Stage 3, 4 and 5. I work with staff to ensure that our curriculum is designed to ensure students develop the skills, resilience and confidence for success in life and society. We work in partnership with families to support and encourage our students to make progress in their learning and achieve the qualifications they need for further education and work.

MRS PARRY

(Senior Teacher- Student Support and Wellbeing)

At Breda Academy we take pride in our pastoral care and I am very proud to work as part of the dedicated Pastoral Team, ensuring that each of our students feel happy and supported in school and are able to reach their full potential.

Within my role I oversee the preventative curriculum and student personal development, ensuring that our students receive the support they require through the implementation of the Outside Agencies Support Framework. I also have oversight of our Counselling Service which we provide in school on a regular basis.

PREFECTS AT BRED ACADEMY



At Breda Academy we pride ourselves on having a hard-working, committed and enthusiastic team of prefects.

Being a prefect is a worthwhile and important job, as these students are role models and mentors for our younger students.

The prefects in return gain valuable experience of leadership and working as a team which will help them in the future.

Prefects are an integral and valued part of our school community. They apply for the role through a demanding application and interview process.

They assist in a variety of ways including lunchtime duties, supporting evening events and being attached to year 8 tutor groups as buddies to help smooth the transition from primary school.



EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS



YOUTH
CAN
DO IT



Dreamscheme



ymca
BELFAST



YMCA

The YMCA are long-standing partners with Breda Academy and have built up significant relationships with both staff and pupils.

Their overall aim is for young people to achieve an increased value of themselves and others. Some of the areas they explore are identity, stereotypes, sectarianism and discrimination through the Key Stage 4 curriculum.

DREAMSCHEME

Dreamscheme is a youth development organisation which is based in Newtownbreda and aims to transform the lives of hard-to-reach and at-risk young people. As well as providing diversionary and developmental youth programmes in local communities such as Milltown, Belvoir, Breda and Braniel, Dreamscheme also provides a mentoring programme of youth support within Breda Academy at Key Stage 3 and 4.

The programme aims to (a) affirm young people, encourage ambition, build potential and promote self-worth (b) connect young people with their community and encourage active youth citizenship, and (c) develop young people's life skills and leadership ability.

At Key Stage 4, the Learn to Thrive Programme provides support and strategies for small groups of students regarding their emotional wellbeing to guide them through their GCSE studies.

Furthermore, our pupils can access support with their studies and homework after school every Monday and Thursday in the Dreamscheme Centre in Newtownbreda.

More information about Dreamscheme can be found at www.dreamschemeni.org.

FAMILYWORKS

FamilyWorks is the school counselling service which offers our pupils additional support through weekly counselling sessions. Pupils can self-refer or be referred by their teacher or parent for help to deal with any emotional and behavioural difficulties to help make more informed choices or decisions.

ACTION MENTAL HEALTH - HOPE

HOPE is the school counselling service which offers our pupils additional support through weekly counselling sessions. Pupils can self-refer or be referred by their teacher or parent for help to deal with any emotional and behavioural difficulties to help make more informed choices or decisions.

EAST BELFAST ALTERNATIVES

East Belfast Alternatives is a local restorative justice agency who offer a wide range of support in the local community. At Key Stage 3, Barry Easton, works with our junior school pupils on the DARE Project to encourage and motivate our students to have high aspirations.

Barry has also recently started a Restorative Mentoring Programme and a Peer Mentoring Programme with students in Key Stage 4 and 5. Furthermore, EBA also supports pupils in Key Stage 3, as part of our Life Skills curriculum.



PRINCE'S TRUST

The Achieve Programme helps our Key Stage 4 students to boost their confidence, learn new skills and work with their friends on a group project. The Programme is completely flexible, and students will study the following projects:

- Delivering a community project and making a real difference in your local area
- Learning all sorts of new skills to help with meeting new people and building your confidence
- Taking on a business challenge to put your entrepreneurial skills to the test
- Improving your knowledge and ability to look after yourself and live a healthy life
- Top tips to help you write the perfect CV and get ahead in your career

YOUNG LIFE

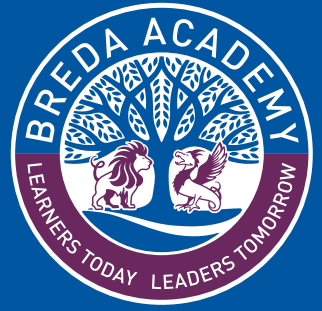
Young Life are an international organization who reach out to High School students around the world. One of their Youth Workers, Dan is in school every Thursday to mentor Year 11 students in the morning and build relationships and support others at lunchtime through his football and lunchtime club.

THE EA YOUTH SERVICE

Youth Workers from the Education Authority come into Breda Academy to deliver the Learn Together and ENGAGE Programmes across Key Stages 3 and 4 and provide the Personal Development curriculum across the school.

We are proud of our links with other agencies including Start 360, DAISY, Youth Justice, the Intercultural Education Service (IES), Nexus, Women's Aid, PSNI, Made for More and Willowfield Youth Workers who also provide valuable support as part of our Pastoral Intervention Programme.





EXCELLENCE IN OUR CURRICULUM

At Breda Academy we aim to ensure each Key Stage in the curriculum should be inclusive and provide opportunities for every student to study courses appropriate to their aspirations, needs, and ability. Each pathway is reviewed annually by our curriculum development team to ensure learning is broad, balanced and diverse, and provides all students with an appropriate mix of academic and vocational areas of study in each Key Stage. Students are provided with learning opportunities to develop their subject knowledge and understanding, technical ability, and literacy and numeracy skills to achieve well in the courses they study and perform well in public examinations.

We believe that everyone is a learner and everyone has the potential to lead others, hence our school motto, '**Learners today Leaders tomorrow**'.

Accordingly, we strive to empower all students with a confident and positive belief in themselves and for their potential to be the drivers of their own lives, aspiring to success within and beyond school. We also endeavour to develop all students' GRIT (Growth mindset, Resilience, Independence and Tenacity) in how they approach their learning.

Learning is a lifelong journey involving making decisions and making mistakes. It is the discovery of new ideas and new answers; it is in making errors that learners refine their abilities and discover new paths. At Breda Academy it is safe to make mistakes and to not yet know the right answer. We are committed to providing a caring and safe environment for all of our students so that they can learn in an atmosphere of mutual tolerance and respect for each other's views and approaches to life.

YEARS 8, 9 & 10

In Key Stage Three, students study a broad range of subjects. Drawing on nationally generated data and our own baseline tests we place students in classes which are most closely matched to their current level of performance. The curriculum is tailored and differentiated for each teaching group so that students get the optimum balance of support and challenge they need to secure excellent progress.



YEARS 11 & 12

In Key Stage Four, students study a core of traditional academic subjects including English and Maths. Beyond the core, students can then select a variety of GCSE and GCSE equivalent qualifications.

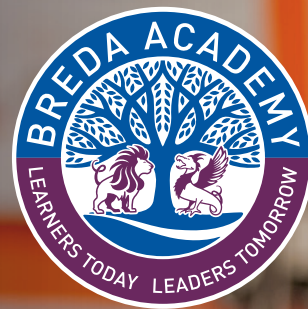
The curriculum offers a breadth of opportunity and range of nationally accredited qualifications to ensure all students have good opportunities to progress into the Sixth Form and higher education or employment.

To ensure that students get the very best out of their curriculum, Breda Academy designs the curriculum using a variety of learning pathways. There is no 'best' or 'better' pathway as each is personalised and supported by our Careers programme to ensure that each student is most suitably matched to an engaging curriculum that best meets their needs and interests.

YEARS 13 & 14

A separate Sixth Form Prospectus is available and updated annually. It sets out the full range of Key Stage 5 subjects on offer and aims to support and develop the commitment and self-discipline students need for successful independent study. Staff will build programmes that foster these skills in class and in independent study that are essential for academic success. Many of our sixth form students continue their learning in high profile UK based universities such as, Queens, Ulster University, Liverpool John Moore's and then go on to have successful careers in teaching, nursing, sport, business and ICT.

To support their learning, students in sixth form are given timetabled private study sessions which are supervised by a member of staff. This also provides them with full ICT access and support.



EXCELLENCE IN OUR CURRICULUM

KEYSTAGE 3 Years 8, 9 & 10

Art
English
French
Geography
History
Home Economics
ICT
Learning for Life and Work
Life Skills
Mathematics
Music
Physical Education
Religious Education
Science
Spanish
Technology and Design

KEYSTAGE 4 Years 11 & 12

Art
BTEC/OCN Sport
Business
Childcare
Construction
Creative Cuisine
Employability
Engineering
English
French
Geography
History
Home Economics
ICT
Joinery & Electrical Wiring
Learning for Life and Work
Life Skills
Mathematics
Music
Personal Success & Wellbeing
Physical Education
Princes Trust
Religious Education
Science
Spanish
Technology and Design
Travel and Tourism
Wider Key Skills

KEYSTAGE 5 Years 13 & 14

Art
BTEC ICT & OCN ICT
BTEC Psychology
BTEC Sport
BTEC Business
Children's play and Learning Development
Creative Arts
OCN Employability
English Literature
Geography
History
BTEC Hospitality
Health and Social Care (Single Award)
Health and Social Care (Double Award)
Life Skills/Personal Development
Product Design
Psychology
Religious Education
Science
Travel and Tourism

TEACHING & LEARNING

Our aim is to meet the needs of all Students with the highest quality of teaching; in an environment which expects the highest standards in Behaviour for Learning and is underpinned by positive relationships, mutual respect, and trust.

At Breda Academy, we provide an outstanding learning environment for all pupils so that, whatever their starting points, they make excellent progress and contribute positively to the world around them. Our inspirational teachers engage students through a variety of activities and provide extensive enrichment opportunities which build the 'GRIT' (Growth mindset, Resilience, Independence, Tenacity), skills and confidence needed for lifelong learning and work.

General Routines and Consistency

We believe that our students will learn best where there are consistent routines across every subject area. Each child will be settled into every lesson and be introduced to the learning outcomes for each lesson using the same language and routines.

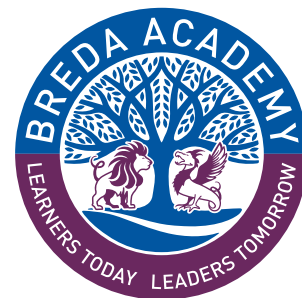
- Each child should understand the success criteria and learning outcomes for each lesson to help put each lesson in context and develop their skills of reflection and self-evaluation.
- We prioritise literacy and numeracy as these are the key gateway skills that increase the future opportunities our students can access. Developing

these skills is the responsibility of all staff at Breda Academy, not just the English and Maths departments.

- Our students are encouraged to be active, independent and adventurous in their learning because we believe enjoyment enhances achievement. We recognise and reward success and we identify and intervene in underachievement at the earliest possible stage to ensure every student is successful.
- Teachers embrace and use many forms of technology, such as surface pros, to enhance and facilitate students learning in all subject areas.
- All students are assessed regularly throughout the academic year to monitor and track their performance so they continue to make progress in their learning and leave Breda Academy with the necessary qualifications needed for further education, career training and/or work.

“We are indebted to you all for the achievements of our two children” Parent





ASSESSMENT AT BRED ACADEMY

At Breda Academy we recognise that each pupil is different and their path through school will vary. In order to provide them with as much support as possible, each pupil is assessed in every subject from year 8 through to year 14; through homework, monitoring, class tests and end of term examinations (Winter and Summer terms).

Tracking

Each pupil in Key Stages 3, 4 and 5 will have their progress charted using our tailored tracking system. At set times throughout the year, pupils will be set an assessment task which is then recorded, analysed and interventions tailored for those students who are identified as working below their agreed target. These may include:

- **Target Setting**
- **In-Class support**
- **Target Homework**
- **Pupil Mentor scheme**
- **Revision sessions**
- **Parent Consultation**
- **Quality Feedback**
- **Assessment to support learning**
- **Numeracy Focus**
- **Literacy Focus**
- **EAL Support**

Baseline Testing

At Key Stage 3, each pupil will undertake baseline testing (CAT) to provide an insight into each pupil's ability to reason across four distinct areas: verbal, non-verbal, mathematical and spatial, as compared to the national average. They will also complete CCEA Literacy and Numeracy Assessments. These will enable teaching staff to meet each pupil's needs and ensure feedback is appropriate and targets are achievable.

My Progress

Students in Key Stage 4 & 5 regularly review their progress independently through completing 'My Progress' forms. These forms allow students to reflect on their learning journey and target grade at different points throughout the year. This supports students in taking responsibility for their own learning but also remind students of the support available from their teachers and how they can take accountability for their own progress.

Reporting

Teachers will report pupil progress twice in the school year, once in the Winter term, and then at the end of the Summer term. Reports are sent electronically to parents via email and the School Comms app.





ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES TO ENGAGE OUR STUDENTS

At Breda Academy, we encourage all of our students to participate in enrichment opportunities, with a range of activities being offered after school hours or during lunchtime.

We regularly run after school sporting activities, with teams picked to represent Breda Academy in sports such as: basketball, football, netball and rugby.

Breda Academy also provides a wide range of music clubs and societies to help stretch the interests and aspirations of our students.

As part of our enrichment programme, Sixth form students have taken part in a global citizenship programme to Tanzania over the past two years and this year students will travel to Panama and Cambodia to support their local communities.

Clubs and organisations on offer include:

- Basketball
- Boys Singing Club
- Choir
- Cookery
- Debating Society
- Drumming Club
- EAL Lunchtime Club
- Football
- Girls Football
- Guitar Club
- Lego Club
- Musical Theatre
- Piano Club
- Scripture Union

PRIZES AND AWARDS

CELEBRATING SUCCESS AT BREDACADEMY

At Breda Academy, we recognise the importance of celebrating our young people's achievements, both inside and outside of the classroom. Therefore, a system of rewards is embedded in the structure of our school, so that all pupils are encouraged to try their best.

Achievement Points

Pupils are rewarded achievement points by teachers using a computerised system. Points can be rewarded for the following:

1. **Excellent behaviour**
2. **Excellent effort**
3. **Progress and achievement**
4. **Kindness**
5. **Politeness**
6. **Involvement in school life**
7. **Excellent attendance**
8. **Going 'Above and Beyond'**

Key Stage 3

Badges and certificates will be presented by the Principal in our Rewards Assemblies, when pupils meet the following thresholds:

• Bronze	50 points
• Silver	100 points
• Gold	150 points
• Principal's Award (special reward)	200 points

Pupils who receive the Principal's Award will be invited on a full day trip at the end of Year 10. Pupils will be accompanied by Mr Perry, their Head of Year and Head of Key Stage. This year's trip was to Castlewellan where 36 pupils took part in a range of land and water based outdoor activities.

The pupils with the most achievement points that term, in each Key Stage 3 form class, will also be awarded the following:

1st place – Form Class Gold Award

2nd Place – Form Class Silver Award

3rd Place – Form Class Bronze Award

Pupils' achievement points are included on their school reports and are also communicated to parents on a regular basis via the school comms app.

Key Stage 4

The Key Stage 4 System rewards pupils who exhibit the following:

- **Punctuality to school**
- **Good attendance**
- **Meet coursework deadlines**

Students who achieve the thresholds will be taken on trip organised by their Head of Year before the half term break in Year 12.

Key Stage 5

Key Stage 5 pupils will receive the Honours Award at the end of Year 13 if they meet specific criteria under the following areas:

- **Commitment**
- **Dedication**
- **Reliability**
- **Academic achievement**
- **Leadership**
- **Completing a personal challenge outside of school**

Annual Prize Distribution

The Annual Prize Distribution is a special event in the school calendar and provides an opportunity for a formal celebration of success.

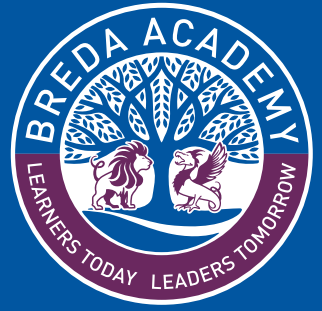
Recipients and their families are invited to the school to attend an evening which celebrates the achievements of our current pupils. Pupils are selected by their teachers to receive academic prizes, sporting achievement awards and recognition in other deserving areas.

Hall of Fame

Pupils who achieve success or go 'above and beyond' inside or outside of school, will be included in our 'Hall of Fame' in the Breda Bulletin, as well as on our Facebook and Instagram pages



BREDA ACADEMY CAREERS EDUCATION



In Breda Academy, Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) is an important element of our provision. We are committed to ensuring that all students receive high quality careers education and guidance as part of their learning experiences. This will enable them to make informed, considered and realistic decisions about their education, training and employment options. Careers education and guidance prepares young people for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences they will face throughout their adult life.


We aim to:

- Makes students aware of their individual skills, qualities and interests;
- Provide students with a broad and balanced curriculum- through lessons in Learning for Life and Work, Careers lessons, Life Skills lessons and the development of a range of employability skills in every subject;
- Engage students in more work-related opportunities- including: mock interviews, industry visits and local guest speakers;
- Equip parents and students with relevant and appropriate Careers information, to ensure successful transitions as students move through Key Stage 3, 4 and 5.

Students evolve their own Personal Career Plans in the context of each transition they must make – whether to GCSE, Advanced Level, Higher Education or employment. As students move into the senior school, support is provided through the process of the application and selection process, and life beyond school is considered: finding accommodation, financial issues and settling in at university or a new job.

Careers Education is delivered through various means which include Life Skills lessons, CEIAG events, subject-based careers activities and Learning for Life and Work (LLW).





Additionally, Year 11 and Year 13 students engage in a week of work experience. This scheme is an extension of the work developed in the Careers Department and "Learning for Life and Work" programme. To date, the scheme has been a great success with students gaining invaluable information and experience about the world of work and it is our aim that every student should have such an opportunity.

We work closely with the Department of Employment and Learning and all Year 12 students have an interview with our DEL Careers Advisor, who offers individual personal career planning. The Careers Advisor also attends the Year 10, Year 12 and Sixth Year Parents' Evenings to provide information on a range of career pathways.

Sixth Year Students are offered guidance and support by dedicated members of staff who are their link teacher throughout the UCAS application process. They act as mentors on making applications to Further and Higher Education during one-to-one guidance sessions. Presentations are arranged allowing visiting University representatives to share information and all student have opportunities to attend the University of Ulster and Queen's University Open Days.

The Aims of our careers provision cover three main areas.

- **Self-Awareness**

To enable students to identify, assess and develop the skills and qualities necessary to choose and implement an appropriate career.

- **Career Exploration**

To acquire and evaluate information and review experiences. To identify and investigate appropriate career pathways and learning opportunities in education, training and employment.

- **Career Management**

To develop skills in career planning and employing effective decision-making strategies to manage transition and make suitable career development choices, with the appropriate advice and guidance.



PASTORAL CARE AT BRED ACADEMY

The pastoral care of everyone in the school community is of the highest importance. Breda Academy students benefit from a highly developed pastoral system to ensure that every student's progress towards becoming a well-rounded individual is closely monitored. Effective communication and partnership with parents and carers are an essential element of good pastoral care. Breda Academy maintains clear and concise structures and procedures to address pastoral issues swiftly and appropriately.

Our Pastoral Team

Form Tutor

Students are assigned to a tutor group when they join Breda Academy which is overseen by a Form Tutor who sees students every day for registration. The Form Tutor provides a first point of contact for the students and their parents and carers about any issues that arise in school.

Year Head

Each year group will have a Year Head who has experience of each Key Stage and is able to provide specialist support with the issues that arise at each stage in post-primary education. The Head of Year also delivers aspects of the Breda Academy Preventative Curriculum programme during a weekly Life Skills lesson. Furthermore, visiting speakers, events and special occasion assemblies ensure our students cover a wide range of relevant topics to help their personal development as young people in our care.

Head of Key Stage

The work of the Year Heads is overseen, supported and embedded by our Heads of Key Stage. Mrs Parry is Senior Teacher and Head of Key Stage Three (Years 8 to 10), Mr McCann is Head of Key Stage Four (Years 11 to 12) and Ms Ferguson is Senior Teacher and also Head of Key Stage Five (Years 13 and 14).

Further Support

Mrs Scott is our Vice-Principal who works with the Pastoral Team to ensure all pupils are supported and nurtured during their years at Breda Academy.

Mrs Scott is also our Designated Child Protection officer and leads the Safeguarding Team of four members who work closely with our more vulnerable students and families.

Breda Academy boasts an effective confidential counselling provision for students who need someone to talk to about their problems/concerns. We are fortunate to offer weekly appointments from an Action Mental Health counsellor. In addition, a team of external agencies are an integral part of our pastoral intervention pathway to ensure that everyone is supported in their learning and wellbeing.

Positive Behaviour Policy

At Breda Academy we are committed to a culture which empowers everyone to achieve their full potential. We actively promote a positive teaching and learning environment where everyone is expected to work hard and behave in a responsible manner by displaying consideration, courtesy, and respect for others at all times. Our expectations for all in our school community are, **Be Safe, Be Kind and Be Ready (for Learning)**.

From experience, we have found this positive approach benefits from the active support and full co-operation of all parents and carers in maintaining high standards. This is particularly so with regard to matters of attendance and punctuality, the supervision and submission of homework/ coursework and adhering to School Uniform Regulations.



We have three overarching expectations of students:

Be SAFE
Be KIND
Be READY FOR LEARNING
(PREPARED)

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS & DISABILITY (SEND)

Students with an identified Special Educational Need and/or Disability (SEND) at Breda Academy are fully included in all aspects of school life and are given support to access the curriculum to reach their full potential.

SEND support is provided by our experienced SENCO and Assistant SENCO and our team of Teaching Assistants, in conjunction with classroom teachers, throughout the curriculum.

Breda Academy boasts a range of learning support rooms and dedicated SEND staff who specialise in providing support for all areas with Special Educational Needs including, cognitive and learning needs, social, emotional, behavioural and well-being needs, speech and language needs and physical needs.

The support given to our students is tailored according to their individual needs and is delivered in a variety of ways.

Student progress is monitored carefully throughout their time here and we communicate with parents and carers on a regular basis.

Specialist Educational Provision at Breda Academy

We have recently added a further specialist provision class to our school, and we now have two classes, one Year 8 and one Year 9 group. This is a small group setting catering to the individual needs of each student.

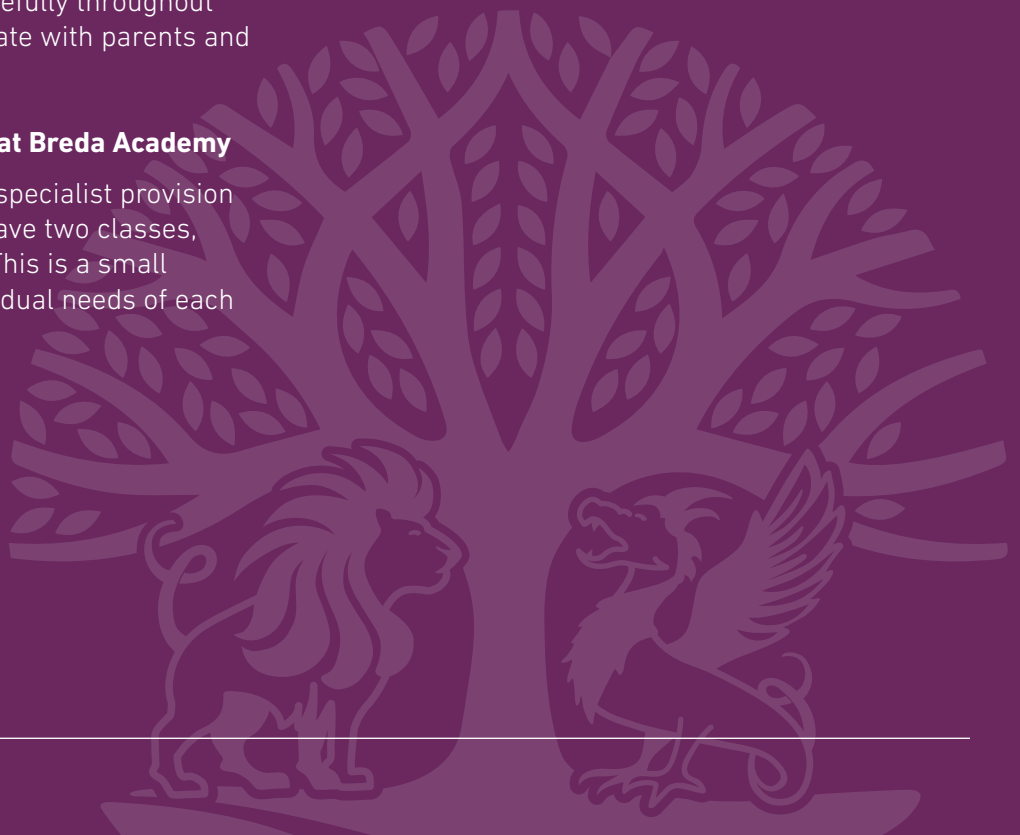
This provision allows us to provide intensive support, in a nurturing environment for students with social and communication needs at Key Stage 3.

Inclusion

Breda Academy warmly welcomes newcomer pupils from all cultures and countries, and we proudly celebrate our multicultural status. Our students are supported by dedicated EAL staff in their language development and with their pastoral needs.

The support given to our students is tailored according to their individual needs and is delivered in a variety of ways including in small groups and in-class support.

Newcomer students are offered access to additional qualifications at Key Stage 4 including IGCSE English as a Second Language, IGCSE English as an Additional Language and GCSEs in their home language.





SCHOOL FACILITIES

We aim to offer an excellent learning environment for all students. The school buildings are well maintained and all classrooms have up to date technology and equipment.

The facilities include:

- Information Technology Suites which are fully equipped with up to date technology
- Apple Mac Suite
- Chrome Books
- Music Suite with practice facilities
- Science Block with fully equipped laboratories
- Technology Block with workshops
- Sports Hall
- Fitness Suite
- All weather hockey pitch
- Grass soccer pitch
- Modern well stocked library
- Home Economics Rooms
- Art Rooms
- School Canteen
- Sixth Year Common Room
- Sixth Year Study Centre
- The Hub



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Students of Breda Academy are expected to dress smartly and in compliance with the school uniform requirements. A school is both a community and a working environment. Smart uniform is one way in which we express our readiness and our determination to promote a positive image for ourselves and our fellow students within and beyond the school.

Wearing a uniform ensures all students feel welcome. It promotes inclusion and relations between different groups of students.

Girls

Black Blazer
(Year 8-12)
Burgundy Blazer
(Year 13-14)
White shirt
School tie
Grey school jumper
Grey knee length kick
pleat skirt
Grey school socks or
plain black tights
Plain black shoes
Breda Academy black zip top

Boys

Black Blazer
(Year 8-12)
Burgundy Blazer
(Year 13-14)
White shirt
School tie
Grey school jumper
Black trousers
Plain dark socks
Plain black shoes
Breda Academy black zip top

PE Kit

The compulsory elements of the PE kit are the branded Kukri kit in the school colours with a blue main colour and purple accent colour:



Girls

Skort and/or black
leggings
Top
Socks

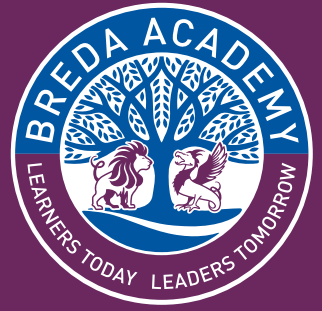
Boys

Shorts
Top
Socks

Footwear for PE should be trainers with light or non - marking soles and laces must be tied.



TRANSPORT



Both Translink and Metro provide exceptional transport links for Breda Academy.

A number of buses will service the areas below:

Bus 1

Drives along the Dual Carriage way and turns down the Cregagh Road. Then along the Woodstock Road.

Bus 2

Drives along the Dual Carriage way and turns down the Cregagh Road. Turns up Montgomery Road. Turns at Lidl to go towards top of the Castlereagh Road and Clonduff. Then along the Dual Carriageway towards the Braniel. Finally, towards Gilnahirk.

Bus 3

Rosetta and turns onto Mount Merrion. Ladas Drive and Castlereagh Road, Braniel, Ice Bowl, Dundonald, Ballybeen.

Bus 4

Rosetta – Mount Merrion – Bellsbridge Roundabout – Cregagh Road and then Woodstock Road.

Bus 5

Goes along the carriageway towards Tullycarnet.

Blue Bus 1

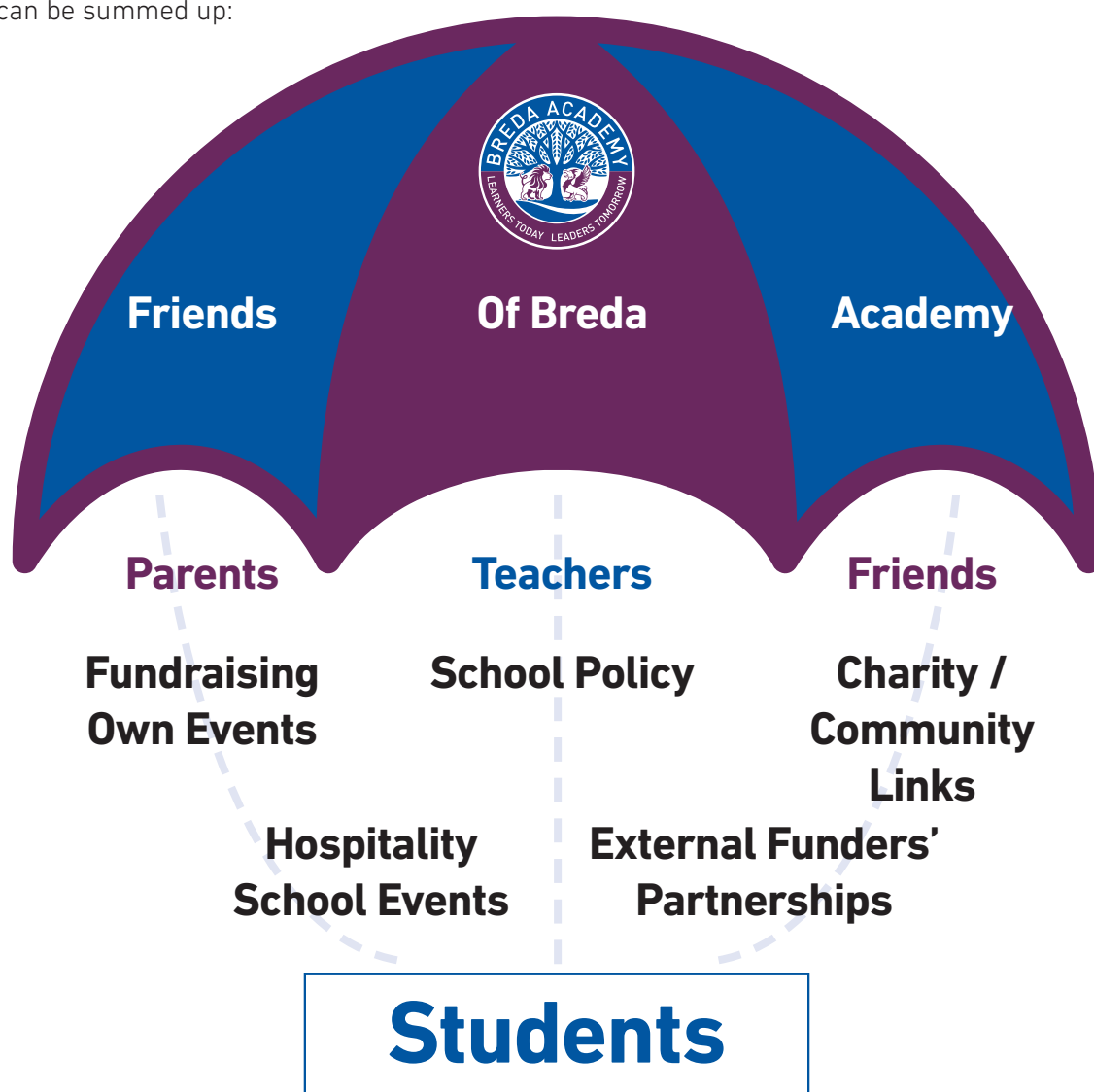
Erinvale/ Finagh/ Taughmonagh Bus Malone Road is also available each day.



FRIENDS OF BREDACADEMY

Our Parents, Teachers and Friends Association

Our aims can be summed up:



Academic research tells us that 50% of achievement is influenced by home and not by teachers or the school environment. If we are to give every student the best school experience and outcome then we believe that all the people in their lives need to work together.

It is with this in mind that
“**Friends of Breda Academy**” was formed.

We recognise that a successful school is built on parents, teachers and friends working together to support the students, the school and the wider community.

We have provided a social focus for parents and raised funds to support internal and external projects. We hope you can join us to continue this work.

TRANSITION INTO BREDACADEMY

Transfer to post-primary education can be an anxious time for parents and carers determined to make the right choice of school for their child.

As set out in our mission statement:

Breda Academy aims to provide our diverse community of students with support, guidance, and advice to build resilience for meeting the challenges they may face in their life and society and to help meet their needs and encourage a safe and caring environment where developing and nurturing positive relationships is at the centre of all that we do.

Accordingly, the staff and leadership of Breda Academy are committed to providing every child with an outstanding education in an environment that provides both consistent support and challenging opportunities.

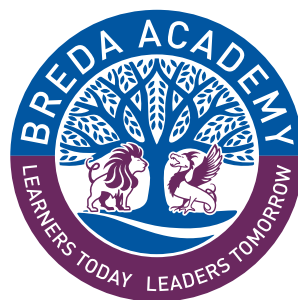
Our highly professional and well qualified staff will work in close partnership with parents. We set high standards and expectations for all pupils to help ensure they go into adulthood with skills and qualifications to access the best possible career and educational opportunities.

Breda Academy offers your son or daughter opportunities to **achieve, belong, learn and enjoy**, not just up to GCSE, but beyond as vibrant our sixth form ensures we can provide the total post-primary experience from 11 to 18.

As a parent or carer, if you would like to speak to us or would simply appreciate a personal tour of the school, please contact the leadership team and we will do everything possible to accommodate you.

We look forward to welcoming your son or daughter into Breda Academy where their academic and pastoral progress will be our top priority.

TRANSFER PROCEDURE



CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION TO YEAR 8

If the school is oversubscribed the following admissions criteria will be applied in the following order:

1. Students with an older sibling/s who are enrolled at Breda Academy in the academic year 2024-2025.
2. Students transferring from the following feeder Primary Schools for Breda Academy in no preferential order.

Belvoir Park	Cregagh	Forge Integrated	Nettlefield
Blythefield	Donegall Road	Gilnahirk	Orangefield
Botanic	Dundonald	Harding Memorial	Rosetta
Braniel	Elmgrove	Knockbreda	Strandtown
Brooklands	Euston Street	Leadhill	Stranmillis
Cairnshill	Fane Street	Lisnasharragh	Taughmonagh
Carryduff	Finaghy	Loughview	

3. Students who are the eldest child or the first child in the family to transfer to a mainstream post primary school.

4. **All other applicants:** If there are more students meeting the set criterion than there are places available, each student will be assigned a unique number. These numbers (Students) will then be selected in rank order of first, second, third, fourth, fifth and so on as determined by an electronic random choice generator until all available places are allocated.

Only information declared on the Transfer Application will be used when applying the afore-mentioned criteria.

Waiting List Policy and arrangements in relation to applications for admission to Y8 after the 2025/2026 academic year commences:

The above criteria will be applied, in the first instance, to those applicants who have previously been refused a place in our school during the Transfer procedure up to the first day of the autumn term 2025. New applications for year 8 will be added to the end of the waiting list of those children not selected during the admissions process. Should a place become available during the school year all applicants will be considered using the above criteria providing the child's parent(s)/carer(s) have informed the school, in writing, on or after 1st September 2025 that they wish for their child be placed on a waiting list.

The same criteria will also be applied when considering requests for admission to years 9 to 12.

Principal and Secretary to the Board of Governors:
Mr P Perry

Chairperson of Board of Governors:
Mr I Gibson

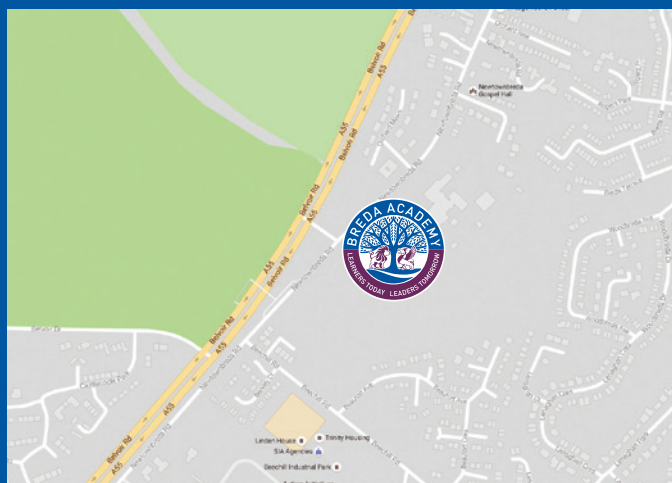
Education Authority Area:
Education Authority (South Eastern Region)

School Type:
Controlled Secondary Co-Educational 11-18

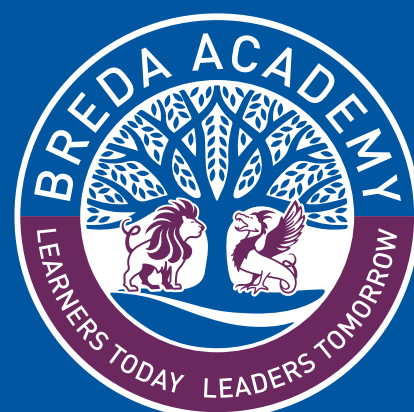
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LEARNERS
TODAY,
LEADERS
TOMORROW.



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