

Academy



NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY
SAMWORTH ACADEMY



WORK HARD BE KIND

Welcome

Every child deserves the opportunity to access a high quality education. Our aim at NUSA is very simple and that is to be recognised as outstanding in every aspect. The determination of staff and governors to achieve this goal is very strong and is based on our core belief that every child can succeed.

At NUSA, all of our staff show genuine care for every student in their charge. Strong, supporting and trusting relationships are a real strength of the school. We ensure that the welfare of each student is catered for. We encourage our students to take pride in themselves, the school and their community. We believe that all members of the school should behave well and have respect for each other. We want our students to become the leaders

and achievers of the future and want to provide them with every opportunity possible to allow them to go on to succeed in their chosen career area. We expect our students to attend school regularly, on time, in uniform and with the right equipment, ready to learn and engage with the opportunities that we provide for them.

A prospectus can only offer a flavour of the life of our school. We would be delighted to welcome you to experience our busy working community at first hand. We are proud of our school and invite you to join our future success.

Emma Howard
Head of School



“Equality of opportunity plays a full part in the school’s highly positive ethos. Pupils are clear that any discriminatory behaviour is not tolerated.”

Ofsted
September 2017

Ethos

Nottingham University Samworth Academy has a very clear and distinctive ethos.

We want our students to become the leaders and achievers of the future and want to provide them with every opportunity possible to allow them to go on to succeed in their chosen career area.

Our motto is underpinned by a set of school core values:

- **Hard work** — We do not give up. We do whatever it takes to reach our desired outcome for as long as it takes. We aspire for the best for ourselves.
- **Courage** — We are loyal and demonstrate the courage to do the right thing. We do not say one thing and do another. We do not make excuses.
- **Fairness** — We are part of one team and understand that by helping others, we are helping ourselves. We realise the impact of our actions on others. We are respect and polite at all times.



Nottingham University
Samworth Academy

“The curriculum has been carefully thought out to ensure that it meets the needs of pupils.”

Ofsted
September 2017

Curriculum

The core purpose of what we do at NUSA is to deliver a curriculum that is broad, balanced and ambitious for every pupil, ensuring that every child leaves the school with choices that will both empower them and their community. We have a three-year Key Stage 3 curriculum, which is aligned with the National Curriculum and is expertly taught by our passionate staff who share their love of the subjects that they teach.

At the start of Year 10, pupils move into our two-year Key Stage 4 curriculum. All pupils study a core curriculum consisting of GCSE, English, Mathematics, Science and Physical Education. Pupils also study three option subjects ensuring that our pupils enjoy a varied curriculum to secure a broad academic profile at the end of Year 11, which also provides all pupils with the option to study the English Baccalaureate.

NUSA-16, which is our Sixth Form, offers a range of

both vocational and academic ambitious pathways for students who wish to continue learning with us during Key Stage 5. A range of Level 3 Extended BTEC diplomas as well as Advanced Level courses provide students the accessibility to high quality university courses, higher level apprenticeships, or improve their employability prospects. We pride ourselves on promoting the highest aspirations for all our students.

All pupils at NUSA (across all three Key Stages), as part of their character development, follow our Personal Development programme, which encompasses Personal, Social and Health Education and the statutory guidance outlined in the RSE and Health Education curriculum.

We are proud of the inclusive culture that we engender at NUSA, where our pupils are taught about the core values that makes every pupil a well-rounded individual.

“Pupils are making good progress across a range of subjects and in all year groups.”

Ofsted

September 2017

Achievement

At NUSA, we believe that all our students should have every opportunity to leave school with the best outcomes possible. Therefore, the Achievement Team monitor progress and achievement at every stage of students' achievement journey.

When making our progress judgements we consider a student's previous attainment and other information such as reading ages to determine if a pupil is progressing at a rate we would want them to. All of our targets are set using 'The Fisher Family Trust' target setting tools, which ensure that all of our students are aspiring for the highest rate of progress. You will see this target in our report as a 'Minimum Expected Grade (MEG)', when the child is in Year 9, 10 and 11.

NUSA achievement Week

“Big achievements come one small advantage at a time, one step at a time, one day at a time.”

Looking at a high achiever or someone successful in life, you may always think, “I wish I could be like that!” But little do you know about the person's struggle to achieve all that and more. High achievers have many characteristics that help them attain everything they want — it is not based on luck. At NUSA we aim to help students build and develop the characteristics it takes to become a high achiever through a focused 'NUSA Achievement Week'. Periodically through the year, students are set a series of nine individual challenges designed specifically to develop the characteristics needed to become a high achiever at NUSA and beyond.



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BE KIND**

Reading

Reading is at the heart of our curriculum, and we ensure that every student has the opportunity to read in every lesson. Reading and Literacy is so important at NUSA that we have embedded a daily pastoral reading scheme whereby every student in school reads out loud for 20 minutes.

We have identified a core set of books for each year group based on high challenge as well as allowing students to experience the lives of others that may be different or similar to their own. Every student at NUSA will read at least two novels a year through our pastoral reading programme.

To support every student to access the most challenging

parts of the curriculum, we assess the students reading ability twice a year. Assessments inform the level of support students receive at school to improve their reading fluency.

To support parents at home, we host regular webinars for Reading and Writing to ensure parents are fully aware of the work we are doing in school and how parents can support children at home.

WORK HARD BE KIND

Extra curricular and enrichment

We are enormously proud of our extra-curricular provision here at NUSA. For three consecutive years, we have been the top participating school in the city, entering more competitions than any other school! This means our pupils have the best opportunity to develop their skills and tactics in competitive situations in a wide range of both team and individual sports. As well as further enhancing their capacity for teamwork and sportsmanship.

Alongside the annual city-wide competitions, we also offer a variety of extracurricular clubs for example, football, basketball, netball, trampolining, and many others. This allows students of all ages and abilities to engage in activities whether they want to play competitively or for those who want to play more for fun or to get fit. We have certainly got a club that fits the bill.

We offer a comprehensive programme of enrichment opportunities, enabling students to extend their learning beyond the classroom.

There are many creative opportunities for our students including choir, instrumental and singing lessons, theatre club, art club and an annual whole school production.

Our new computer suites and well-equipped labs allowed us to offer many STEM enrichment opportunities. These clubs allow students to develop their coding skills, design and build machines, learn how to problem solve, create online content and care for and protect our environment.

We also run The Duke of Edinburgh award which is a life-changing experience. A fun time with friends. An opportunity to discover new interests and talents. A tool to develop essential skills for life and work. A recognised mark of achievement; respected by employers.



"Pupils are confident and happy and universally proud of their school. The school is very welcoming and this is appreciated by pupils."

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September 2017

Transition

We understand that the transition from Primary to Secondary education can be both an exciting and a challenging process for both pupils and parents.

Our transition arrangements are carefully planned to ensure that students are ready for a successful and enjoyable Year 7. Arrangements start in Year 5 and build up to a full school visit in the summer term of Year 6.

If you have any questions regarding transition at any stage of the process, please do not hesitate to ask. Staff are always available to answer questions at our various events or you can e-mail the school at any time. As well as visiting our linked primary schools we regularly run information evenings for out-of-catchment parents. Details can be found on our school website.

We welcome visits to the school from prospective parents and students. If you would like to arrange a visit or if you

have any questions please contact the school by phone or e-mail.

To give our Year 7 students the best possible start, we also offer a free summer school in the summer holidays where students can take part in lessons, team building activities and trips.

To further support the transition to secondary, we start the academic year off with two days exclusively for Year 7, where they can learn and embed the routines the 'NUSA way' having staff's undivided attention.

We look forward to welcoming you and your child to Nottingham University Samworth Academy.

“Leaders, governors and all staff are highly ambitious for the pupils. There is an absolute determination that they will do well. Staff know each pupil as an individual and constantly reinforce the school’s motto of ‘work hard, be kind’.”

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Routines

At NUSA we have strong routines embedded to maximise learning. We have a clear set of expected behaviours for both inside and outside of the classroom. Students get recognised for having a great attitude to learning by receiving positive points on our behaviour platform ‘Kickboard’. Students can then swap their points for a range of prizes as a reward for their efforts.

Students represent us at all times and we expect students to be role models in the community. Students that do not meet the expectation will be corrected by staff prior to losing points and facing consequences.



**WORK HARD
BE KIND**

Summary

We are immensely proud of Nottingham University Samworth Academy. At the heart of our learning community is the belief that every child matters and that every child will succeed.

We promote ambition, commitment and independence. High standards are set in the knowledge that hard work and discipline secure lifelong achievement.

NUSA will support your child with care, consideration and understanding and we promise to always challenge, motivate and engage. Educating your child is a great privilege and responsibility.



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