



Welcome to Our School

Erasmus Darwin Academy is a highly successful and popular school for students aged 11-18, that converted to Academy status in July 2011. We are now a school with a strong tradition of educational excellence, which is based on a high quality curriculum and outstanding extra-curricular provision. We are firmly established as one of the highest performing schools in the region.

Our ongoing success has helped the academy achieve a strong and growing reputation both locally and over a wider geographical area and we are now the school of choice for an increasing number of families. This is reflected by our steady and sustained growth in pupil numbers: We are now heavily oversubscribed, having grown from c.800 on roll in 2010 to c1100 students now on roll as of September 2019. The school admits students from Burntwood and surrounding towns and villages in south Staffordshire, with students being admitted from over 20 primary schools.

The Academy occupies a quiet and pleasant site in close proximity to Chasewater. The main buildings were opened in 1970 and a new Sports Hall was built in 2005, incorporating excellent facilities such as a dance studio, a fully equipped gym, specialist P.E. classrooms with networked computers and a large sports hall. We also benefit from extensive sports fields, tennis courts and an excellent full sized all-weather pitch.

In the past couple few years, the Academy has received significant accolades, as listed below, which recognise and confirm that we are in a very strong and healthy position:

- We have featured in the Elite School's Guide, in the regional press, as one of the most successful schools in the West Midlands, for the third year running.
- We have been graded a Category 1 School, the highest grade possible, by Staffordshire LA's Quality Assurance Team (for the fourth year running.)
- We received a very good Ofsted report, confirming that we are in great shape. (A summary of key findings is attached to this summary)

As an inclusive learning community, we are committed to achieving excellence for all – and that applies to both students and staff. We want all of our staff to be the best that they can be so that they can help every single young person excel, both in and out of the classroom.

Indeed, as well as having a sharp focus on academic excellence we greatly value out-of-classroom experiences which broaden the horizons and skills sets of our young people. Consequently, we have an exciting range of high-quality extra-curricular opportunities on offer for all of our young people. These are delivered by our highly committed staff, who give freely of their time and who actively encourage our young people to participate. Such provision includes our annual production (which was 'Beauty and the Beast' this year) together with the numerous concerts, clubs, educational visits, charitable events and sporting activities and student leadership opportunities which characterise EDA. Details of this extra-curricular provision can be seen in our termly newsletters and Extra-Curricular Directory.

In summary, Erasmus Darwin Academy has a strong ethos and an extremely positive school culture. We offer a calm, orderly, friendly, caring and aspirational environment in which to learn, where every individual is valued and where everyone works together towards the vision of "excellence for all" with high expectations of themselves and others.