

Hall Cross
Academy



— HALL CROSS ACADEMY PROSPECTUS —

Enjoying excellence every day

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OUR PROSPECTUS

Our prospectus, together with further details about Hall Cross and useful policies, are available on our website:

www.hallcrossacademy.co.uk. The website is regularly updated with announcements and key dates, along with electronic copies of letters sent home.


Hall Cross
Academy



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[/officialhallcrossacademy](https://www.facebook.com/officialhallcrossacademy) 

[@officialhallx](https://twitter.com/officialhallx) 

WELCOME TO YOUR ACADEMY

A message from your Principal

Thank you for your interest in Hall Cross Academy and taking the time to consider the school as the choice for the next stage in your child's education.

As a school we are committed to ensuring that all students have access to the best opportunities and education. The staff we appoint and the curriculum that we offer ensures that students are the focus of everything we do.

We continue to achieve high levels of academic success, consistently achieving outcomes above national standards. More importantly however, we strive to ensure all students move onto the next stage of their lives equipped not only with the appropriate qualifications but also the skills to be successful and well rounded citizens.

As a truly good school we are never complacent, striving to always reach the next level of excellence in provision for our students.

I am confident that your child will enjoy a fulfilling and rewarding education at Hall Cross Academy and we look forward to your application.



Mr Swain
Principal

JOINING HALL CROSS ACADEMY

Moving to secondary school is an exciting, yet challenging, experience for children and their parents.

To help with this transition, we have a number of things in place:

- Links between Headteachers and key staff within our Family of Schools for planning the calendar of transition activities.
- Sharing successful teaching strategies between Hall Cross and primary schools to ensure good progression into, and through, Y7.
- An Open Evening in October for you to meet the Leadership Team and teachers, visit departments and sample activities.

- Induction days during the year for all Year 6 students who will start with us in September.
- Our Year 7 year manager, coupled with the SENDCO visit all primary schools from which we receive students. This ensures we have all the relevant academic data, alongside other important information for all students prior to their arrival.
- Children with special needs or particular requirements are offered more extensive support with transition and induction. Please contact the academy if you would like further advice.
- There is an opportunity for 1:1 visits for vulnerable, anxious students.

The pupil admission number for each year group is 310.

Hall Cross Academy is oversubscribed annually. When applying please put us as first choice to avoid disappointment.



Enjoying excellence every day

HALL CROSS LEARNER

At Hall Cross Academy we have high expectations of our students and always promote positive behaviours and we expect all students to display the values of the Hall Cross Learner. The Hall Cross Learner values were designed by students for students and represent the values that we, as a school, see as integral to creating the next generation of powerful learners.



L I T E R A T E
C R E A T I V E
T E A M P L A Y E R
R E S P E C T F U L
I N D E P E N D E N T
M O T I V A T E D
P R O U D

A Hall Cross Learner has the following qualities:

Literate

Students speak and write using formal Standard English. They choose words and sentences carefully so they can express themselves clearly, powerfully and creatively. Students use their green pen to mark spelling, punctuation and grammar consistently. Students read widely and regularly.

Creative

Students think creatively. When they get stuck, they try different ways to find a solution. Students are resilient and understand that mistakes are an important part of learning.

Team Player

Students are confident about working in groups. They join in well, take on different roles and take them seriously. Students listen well to others and take and build on their ideas. They include others and help them to succeed.

Respectful

Students recognise that the classroom is a learning environment. They respect other students' work and their right to learn ensuring that their efforts in the classroom enable all students to make progress and learn.

Independent

Students are determined and independent. They know their strengths and what they need to do to improve. Students know their current levels and how to reach their targets. Students are motivated and organise their time so they can learn and make progress every day. Students are aware of the skills they have developed and they use them to complete tasks.

Motivated

Students enjoy learning and look forward to lessons. They know that every minute counts and they arrive on time, well equipped and ready to start learning. Students work closely with teachers and students and get on well with them. Students display a thirst for learning and participate actively in class.

Proud

Students are proud of what they achieve. They take care with their work and ensure it is the best it can be, having a 'Proud Book'. Students learn a lot every day and make lots of progress. They value other students' work and they are happy for others when they succeed.

CARE

At Hall Cross, our students enjoy celebrating and promoting our values through our CARE programme. CARE stands for:

Community Achievement Respect Equality



Community



Achievement



Respect



Equality

GETTING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

The Academy is well served by public bus services.

There is a bike shed on the Lower School Campus, and we encourage bikes to be secured with a lock.

Parents are welcome to drive their children to Hall Cross Lower School Campus although access to the Academy does become congested, particularly at the end of the school day.

In the interests of safety for all our students, our gates are closed to non-staff members during the school

day and parents are unable to drive their cars onto Academy premises. We recommend parents drop off and pick up students at the Lakeside entrance from where students can walk on the footpath to the playground.

The Upper School Campus is situated on Thorne Road in the town centre and can be accessed by all service buses. Parking and facilities for drop-off are unfortunately very limited on the Upper School campus.

SCHOOL DAY

Preparation for Higher Education	Wednesday Afternoon Enrichment
08:35 - 08:50	Registration
08:50 - 09:50	Period 1
09:50 - 10:55	Period 2
10:55 - 11:25	Break
11:25 - 12:25	Period 3
12:25 - 13:30	Period 4
13:30 - 14:10	Lunch
14:10 - 15:10	Period 5



SCHOOL CALENDAR 2024/25

Holiday	Last Day In School	School Re-Opens
		Wed 4 September 2024
Training Day	Thursday 17 October 2024	Monday 21 October 2024
Half Term	Friday 25 October 2024	Monday 4 November 2024
Christmas	Friday 20 December 2024	Tuesday 7 January 2025
Half Term	Friday 14 February 2025	Monday 24 February 2025
Easter	Friday 28 March 2025	Monday 14 April 2025
Good Friday / Easter Monday	Thursday 17 April 2025	Tuesday 22 April 2025
May Day	Friday 2 May 2025	Tuesday 6 May 2025
Spring Bank	Friday 23 May 2025	Monday 2 June 2025
Training Day	Friday 27 June 2025	Tuesday 1 July 2025
Summer	Wednesday 23 July 2025	

SCHOOL UNIFORM 2024/25

Uniform item	Compulsory or optional?	Standards – details	Further clarification
Academy blazer with embroidered school badge	Compulsory	Must be standard school blazer	Purchased from Cliffs in store
Skirt or	Compulsory	Pleated and must be worn knee length with tights. Must have the Hall Cross logo visible. Students must wear tights and not knee length socks if they choose to wear a skirt.	Purchased from Cliffs in store.
Trousers		Plain black school trousers matching those available from school supplier. Logo trousers are available.	No jeans, brushed denim, patch pockets, hipsters, Lycra, jeggings, leggings or drainpipe / skinny fit. No decorative zips or frills.
Jumper	Optional	Plain black embroidered with Academy logo.	Purchased from Cliffs. To be worn under blazers (not as a substitute for a blazer).
Academy tie	Compulsory	Clip on tie (Year 7 and new students will be required to purchase the new black and red tie)	Purchased directly from Cliffs.
White shirt	Compulsory	With collar and sleeves (long or short) and top button that fastens fully.	Must be tucked in. Short sleeves are acceptable. Fitted shirts designed to be worn outside trousers are not acceptable.
Footwear	Compulsory	Plain black. Hard wearing, closed-toed and suitable for weather conditions. Plain black trainers are acceptable.	No coloured logos, stripes, soles or flashes. No sandals, stilettos, flip-flops or Ugg-style boots. Trousers should not be tucked into boots at any time.
Outdoor coat	Optional	Must fit over blazer and should be suitable for cold/wet weather.	No hoodies (under or over blazer), tracksuit tops or sweatshirts. No zip tops made of sweatshirt-type material.
School Bag	Compulsory	Must have school bag with equipment.	Black Pen, Pencil, Ruler, Green Pen and Calculator. Bag must be brought to school everyday.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

PE KIT 2024/25

Uniform item	Compulsory or optional?	Standards – details	Further clarification
Sports Hoodie or ¼ Zip Top	Compulsory	Black with red trim– with Academy logo	*Please note you have a choice between Sports Hoodie or ¼ Zip Top Purchased from Cliffs in store.
Sports shirt	Compulsory	Red with black trim – with Academy logo	
Shorts	Compulsory	Black – with Academy logo	
Waterproof sports jacket	Optional	Black with Academy logo	
Jogging bottoms/ sports leggings	Compulsory	Black	Available from sports retailers.
Socks	Compulsory	Black sports socks OR white ankle socks	
Footwear	Compulsory	Sports trainers - any colour with laces	
Swimming kit	Compulsory	One piece swimming costume or shorts/ trunks suitable for swimming	



Please note when purchasing PE kit that students will be expected to take part in two hours of PE per week. This involves a majority of the lessons taking place outdoors during the winter term so we ask that you send your children to school dressed appropriately for adverse weather conditions.

Scan the QR code to find out more information about our uniform and expectations.



PERSONAL APPEARANCE

HAIR COLOUR, MAKE-UP AND NAILS

- Hairstyles should be of a naturally occurring hair colour.
- Hairstyles that the Academy consider extreme will not be permitted.
- Make-up should be minimal and discrete (no false eye lashes).
- Artificial nails of any type are not permitted.
- Nail polish, if worn, should be natural and discrete. (no false nails)

JEWELLERY AND PERSONAL ITEMS

Only the following items of jewellery are permitted in school:

- One pair of plain stud earrings (no facial piercings).
- One watch (Smart Watches are permitted).

Items deemed unsuitable by the Academy should not be brought into the school.

MOBILE PHONES

As handheld technology develops, mobile phones can be a very useful aid to learning. However, phones should only be used during lesson times at the request of the teacher, and should not be used inappropriately at any time.

Students can log into the Hall Cross WiFi while at school to use the internet. All school internet use is monitored as a matter of security and safeguarding. The Academy considers it a matter of parental responsibility when students use their own data for internet use or communication.

The Academy accepts no responsibility for loss or theft of handheld devices brought into school.

There is a mobile device policy within the wider e-safety policy and students receive e-safety lessons throughout the year which cover all aspects of Digital Literacy and Citizenship.



CURRICULUM

KEY STAGE 3

The Key Stage 3 curriculum at Hall Cross provides the foundation on which future academic success can be built. The initial phase of the KS3 curriculum is to provide an effective transition from KS2. There is a clear understanding across the key stage, and across the academy as a whole, of the fact that students who feel safe and supported in their learning environment are more engaged and likely to fully achieve their potential.

Students graduate from KS3 following a comprehensive options process designed to ensure they move into subjects that best suit their skills, strengths and interests. This is secured through one to one meetings with members of SLT, ensuring students are ready for the challenges of KS4.

Key Stage Three			
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
	Hours	Hours	Hours
English	4	4	4
Geography	2	2	2
History	2	2	2
PSHCE/RE	1	1	1
MFL	2	2	2
Reading	1	0	0
IT	1	1	1
Maths	4	4	4
Science	3	3	3
ADT	2	2	2
PA	1	2	2
PE	2	2	2
Total	25	25	25

ADT: Rotating curriculum comprising Art, Food Technology, Graphics, Product Design and Textiles.

MFL: Y7 students will study either French or Spanish throughout KS3. Y9 students who wish to continue to study their KS3 language may have an additional hour, those not wishing to continue studying a language at KS4 will have an additional hour of science.

Performing Arts: Rotation of Drama and Music.

Science: Some classes will have an additional hour of science in year 9 in preparation for Triple Award GCSE sciences.

KEY STAGE 4

During Key Stage 4 at the Upper School Campus, students are able to study a traditional suite of GCSE subjects coupled with numerous opportunities not available in all schools at this stage. In the core subjects students are taught in sets with mixed groups the norm in foundation subjects. There is a continuation in the investment in PSHCE provision through the Life curriculum across both Year 10 & 11.

We have strong links with external providers to ensure students are fully aware of the options that are open to them by the end of GCSE. Links with universities, Doncaster College, numerous sporting associations, ICA perform accreditation and both local and national employers all serve to contribute to the fabric of

Hall Cross and the opportunities we provide for our learners. We also have strong links with the NHS that provides exposure to the plethora of careers that are available in this pathway.

All students study the Core Curriculum offer

Students choose three additional subjects across the EBACC and Open option columns

Scan the QR code to find out more information about Key Stage 4.



ATTENDANCE

School attendance is a high priority and we have an expectation of at least 97% attendance.

There is a well-documented link between students' attendance and their ability to progress in school; good attendance is also a prerequisite for future employment or progression into further education.

Parents are asked to contact the Academy on their child's first day of absence (before 9.00 a.m. if possible).

Holidays in term time will not be granted, in accordance with Government legislation. Notice must be given in writing before any proposed holiday during term time.

Where the holiday is not granted or goes beyond that which is agreed, you may receive an Education Penalty Notice (EPN).

Further information is available from the Academy's attendance officers.

REWARDS

At Hall Cross Academy recognising, rewarding and being proud of excellence is an important part of our shared values, and it takes place every day.

The Hall Cross Rewards Policy sees students receive points for displaying the values of the Hall Cross Learner, the student designed value system that focuses on being Literate, Creative, Team Player, Respectful, Independent, Motivated and Proud. Students also receive regular bonus rewards relating to their Hall Cross Learner Profile when we track progress.

Students accumulate points throughout the year earning, bronze, silver and gold badges. The points that are earned by students can also be used to purchase a range of prizes, from stationery to snacks, sports equipment to shopping vouchers.

In addition to this we also have termly and annual departmental awards for achievement and effort.

The Academy also supports the individual progression and recognition of success across all key stages through the iCARE programme. In this, students are given the opportunity to recognise and be recognised for their efforts in support of the key values of; Community, Achievement, Respect and Equality. Activities undertaken by our students, both in and outside of the Academy, are recognised and rewarded through a self-referral system and receive commendations from; their peers, student leaders, faculty and the senior leadership team based on their activity. Tasks are set at differentiated levels aimed at furthering the excellence in academia, employment and society ensuring access for all our students.

PRINCIPLES AND AIMS OF HOMEWORK

Hall Cross Academy aims to create an environment where learning outside the classroom is valued by students and is seen as an integral part of their academic success and development as young adults.

Key Stage 3:

Homework at KS3 focuses upon consolidation of classroom learning coupled with the development of key transferable skills which will underpin future academic success.

Key Stage 4:

Students will use the independent study skills gained in Key Stage 3 to manage longer-term pieces of work and projects. Many students require independently

produced coursework and deadlines for these will be published well in advance, together with opportunities to attend additional study sessions. Students will also cultivate effective revision techniques for external examinations.

Key Stage 5:

A much greater degree of self-management and additional reading and note-taking is required in order to handle the volume of work required to succeed in Post 16 courses, in addition to the tasks explicitly set by the teachers. The most successful students routinely re-draft class notes, read widely around the subject, refer to relevant websites and collaborate in discussion forums. Dedicated Post 16 study facilities have been designed to support these activities.

SCHOOL MEALS

Food and drinks are available for all students attending the Academy before school and at morning break and lunch.

Students can choose from a healthy range of hot and cold food, provided by Mellors Catering Services. The cost of a meal deal at lunch is £2.70 (as at May 2024). Payment for school meals should be made in advance, either via ParentPay or by cash in the machines located on both the Upper and Lower School Campuses.

A biometric (finger print) recognition system is used by the Academy for students to purchase their food. Your written consent for this will be requested. Further information can be found in our Protection of Biometric Information of Children Policy, available on our website.

To ensure the safety of our students we insist that students remain in the school premises at lunchtime. They are free to either eat a school meal or alternatively a packed lunch.



PARENTPAY

Hall Cross Academy no longer routinely accept cash and cheque payments, aiming to make the school a cash-free environment.

ParentPay offers you the freedom to make payments whenever and wherever you like, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, safe in the knowledge that the technology used is of the highest internet security available.

Parents are each given a secure online account, activated using a unique username and password.

For parents without internet access payments can be made by PayPoint, located in local stores. A PayPoint card can be requested from the Finance Office, at the Upper School Campus.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Hall Cross Academy aims to create an environment where learning outside the classroom is valued by students, and is seen as an integral part of their academic success and development as young adults.

The Academy has an extensive programme of extra-curricular activities offered by every department to enrich the academic curriculum offer.

Our well-established sporting record for both girls and boys is excellent, and provides opportunities for participation from the recreational to national representation. Many of our students also choose to participate in Sports Leadership activities with younger students. The Physical Education Department have been awarded the Gold Games Mark.

Our Duke of Edinburgh programme, now in its ninth year, is highly popular and oversubscribed.

The Performing Arts Department offers many opportunities for music, dance and theatre and our in-house performing arts school ICAP (imagine, create, achieve, perform) hosts many performances throughout the year attracting talented young performers from across the region.

The Academy has been awarded The Gold Artsmark for its outstanding performing arts offer.

In addition, students can become involved in the wider life of the school as members of the student leadership team, as Key Stage 4 prefects or Sixth Form ambassadors. There are also many opportunities throughout the school calendar to be active citizens by participating in local, national or international charity fundraising events and enterprise challenges.

The Library Resource Centres on both Academy Campuses are vibrant hubs of activity to suit all interests and help students to get involved in school life.

We have excellent links with local and regional employers who help to secure high quality work placements and deliver careers education and guidance. Additionally established links with colleges and universities, promote high aspirations for our young people.

Finally, we continue to work in partnership with Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospital Trust to spearhead innovative new programmes and promote employment pathways in Health.



Artsmark
AWARDED BY ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



SUPPORT AND INTERVENTION

Hall Cross Academy is committed to creating a well ordered, safe and secure environment for all our students, an environment built on mutual respect amongst students, and between students and staff.

This respect is fostered within a sympathetic and caring ethos where the needs of the student are put at the centre of all support and intervention.

Pastoral support is provided by Form Tutors and Year Managers led by a Phase Leader for Care and Guidance at Key Stage 3, 4, 5.

Academic support and intervention is provided in the Core subjects (English, Mathematics and Science) to ensure students are making the necessary progress.

Hall Cross is committed to raising standards of literacy throughout the Academy. At Key Stage 3 all students undertake reading tests throughout the year to ensure that progress is being made in this vital area of learning. All students in Y7 will have a reading hour with our dedicated reading team, alongside contextualised reading in Form Time linked to our weekly Care focus. Those who require further support will be offered reading intervention through our Thinking Reading programme. These students will attend three sessions per week.

The Inclusion Department is committed to meeting the needs of all students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) enabling them to achieve their potential; become confident individuals living fulfilling lives and make a successful transition into adulthood. Whether this be into employment, further or higher education or training. We aim to provide high quality support to students with a range of additional needs and those for whom English is an Additional Language. Support is provided by a team of experienced and dedicated teaching assistants (TAs) who work collaboratively with the class teachers and offer support to young people both inside and outside the classroom.

Students with SEND are involved in scripting their own 'One Page Profile', which describes their strengths and difficulties, and identifies ways that staff and other adults can support them. This co-planned document is shared with all teachers and support staff in school. All new students are screened for dyslexia in the first term which enables us to provide early intervention.

There is further support provided for students who are English speakers of other languages through our Inclusion Department.

For relevant policies linked to SEND and Behaviour please visit the Academy website.

WELL-BEING AND SAFETY

We are all responsible for maintaining a mutually respectful and harmonious environment and our policies and procedures reflect this.

In particular, our policies for the following are of interest and are available on our website for you to read:

- Equality and Diversity
- Behaviour
- E-safety
- Anti-bullying
- Safeguarding



WHAT OUR LEARNERS SAY...



Jonathan



“ Hall Cross is a school unlike the rest. Walking into a new environment, flooded with what appears to be strangers — it’s undeniable how horrible change can be. However, all change can be seen in a positive or negative light, but Hall Cross illuminates the brilliance of change. The classes, the people, the laughs that last lifetimes. Hall Cross Academy provides opportunity and challenge! The experiences along the way are long-lasting, and suddenly the strangers you once saw are now friends for life.

Rebecca



“ My time at Hall Cross Academy has been amazing! I have had my ups and downs here, but the Pastoral Team (Miss Cox, Mrs Briggs and Mrs Jones) have helped me get through it. I am also truly proud to wear my Prefect tie as it shows what I am capable of. My time as a Prefect has been out of this world! You gain a lot of respect from both staff and peers, but also at the same time you feel proud of yourself and your achievements.

Brooklyn



“ I have made many friends and enjoyed all of my lessons. The community of the school is kind and as a result I have enjoyed my time here. Overall, it has been fun, but I have also developed as an individual by improving my knowledge everyday.

Dylan



“ During my first day at Hall Cross Academy, I didn’t know where my classes were, but all the staff helped me find my lessons. A few weeks into Hall Cross I found my feet and I knew where all my lessons were and I knew that all the staff were there to help me in any way I needed. Over the last two years, I have found my confidence to speak up and express my views, which is not what I expected!

Nil



“ When I first walked into Hall Cross I was amazed by how many students and teachers there were, I was even a bit scared. But, after getting to know all the teachers and staff I was so excited to join as they were so kind and made me want to learn. The teachers make every lesson fun and enjoyable and if you ever feel confused then do not be afraid to ask your teacher. Year 8 is also an amazing experience where you get so many opportunities, like new clubs, and you can also help with the Year 6’s during transition. I made so many friends and I am so glad that I got into Hall Cross Academy. You are so lucky to have this opportunity too. I hope you enjoy your time here at Hall Cross Academy!

YOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Mr Swain
Principal



Mrs Forsythe
Senior Vice Principal
Quality of Education



Mrs Massarella-Burton
Associate Vice Principal
Personal Development



Mr Goodchild
Assistant Principal
Quality of Education
Teaching



Mr Parker
Assistant Principal
Quality of Education
Progress



Mr McGuire
Assistant Principal
Professional Development



Mr Oliver
Assistant Principal
Quality of Education
Curriculum



Mrs Johnson
Associate Assistant Principal
Quality of Teaching
Lead Mentor ITT /ECT



Mr Mirfin
Associate Assistant
Principal Learner
Experience



Mr Stewart
Associate Assistant
Principal Head of
Sixth Form

YOUR LOWER SCHOOL TEAM



Mr Young
Key Stage 3
Learner Experience



Mr Wymer
Key Stage 3
Learner Progress



Mrs Briggs
Head of Year 7



Mr Grayson
Head of Year 8



Miss Jones
Head of Year 9



Mrs Laszkowicz
Head of SEND



Miss Cox
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



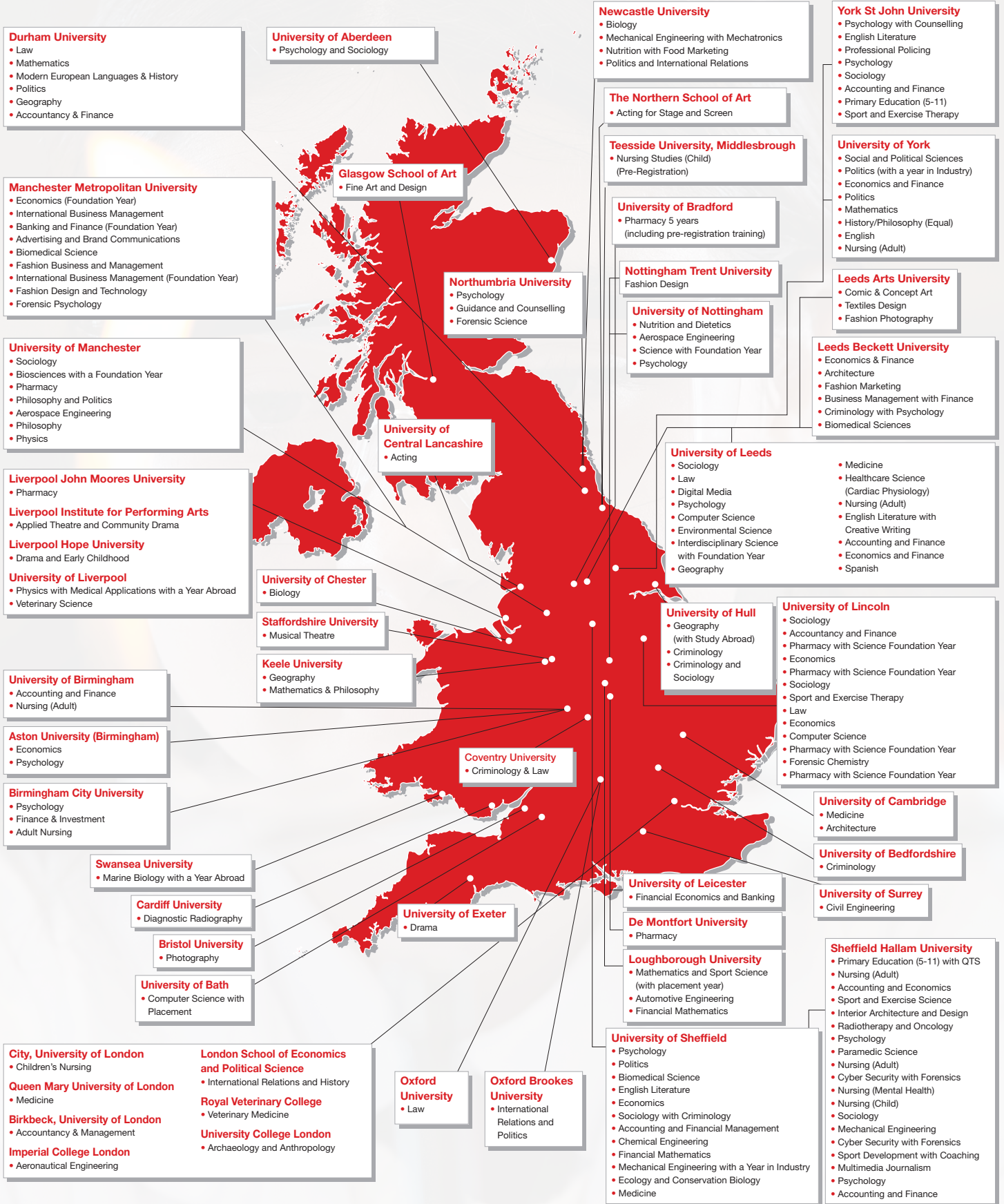
Mrs Hargrave
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Stables
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead

Enjoying excellence every day

DESTINATIONS MAP



MAKING ENQUIRIES

Many enquiries can be answered by contacting reception staff at either campus. If you wish to discuss something with a particular staff member who may not be immediately available, you will be called back at a mutually convenient time.

However, because we know that some issues need immediate attention, our Pastoral team includes non teaching Year Managers they can be responsive at any time.

Information about who our Year Managers are can be found on the academy website.

**Hall Cross
Academy**





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Lower School Campus,
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Bessacarr,
Doncaster,
DN4 5LU

Upper School Campus,
Thorne Road,
Doncaster,
DN1 2HY

Further contact details can be found on our website:
hallcrossacademy.co.uk/contact-us/contact-us-online/

Tel: 01302 320626 Web: hallcrossacademy.co.uk

 /officialhallcrossacademy  @officialhallx



A Member of
Exceed Learning Partnership
• EVERY CHILD • EVERY CHANCE • EVERY DAY •