



Thornhill Academy
Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions



School Prospectus



Proud to be part of
Consilium Academies

Headteacher Welcome



On behalf of our entire school community, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to Thornhill Academy. All our staff at Thornhill are committed to giving our students high-quality education, that will help them become the best they can be. As well as aiming to prepare our students for success in studying at the Academy, we aim to prepare them for success in their life beyond Thornhill too.

Thornhill provides excellent opportunities for our students to develop as learners and grow as individuals. We are fully committed to all members of our school community, recognising their unique and individual potential. We offer a vibrant, exciting, and inclusive all round education, and we are proud of the progress and achievements our students make. We have high expectations of all students, in terms of behaviour and commitment to learning, and of our parents in working with us as partners to support individual progress.

Thornhill Academy is proud to be part of Consilium Academies Trust. As part of Consilium, we are dedicated to working towards the Consilium mission of **‘Enriching Lives’ and ‘Inspiring Ambitions.’**

If you would like to find out more about our school, head over to our website which is full of useful information.

If the website doesn't answer all your questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Mrs S Hamilton
Headteacher



Learning with us

Curriculum Ethos

The curriculum at Thornhill Academy has been designed to ensure that every child is challenged. We are committed to teaching our children the best of what has been thought and said.

Our aim is to ensure that children develop their intellectual abilities by accessing a range of subjects, delivered by an expert in that field. In addition to this, we have a bespoke co-curricular offer in which children can further their gifts and talents. We expect all children to participate in at least one co-curricular activity.

We have a firm belief that all our students are capable of excellence. We understand that excellence is a habit which must be practiced every day. Therefore, we insist that the work your child completes requires thought and effort. We also insist that it is presented to a high standard.

We will care for your child and treat them with respect. However, we also expect them to adhere to our high expectations, so everyone can learn effectively and where potential can be fulfilled. To ensure our culture is one of excellence, where potential can be fulfilled, we insist that your child attends school with the correct uniform, the correct equipment and that they follow our expectations.

Homework

Homework is set regularly. We do this because we know this supports your child to consolidate what they have learned in the classroom. You can access your child's homework by looking in their diary. In addition to this, we use an online platform known as 'Class Charts'. All parents/carers and students get password protected access to this site and this is our main method of communication around your child's attitude to learning, rewards and homework. It is an expectation that all parents/carers access and use Class Charts.

Monitoring Progress

As a parent/carer, you will receive regular reports outlining your child's progress. You are also expected to attend a Parents' Evening once a year to meet your child's teacher. You will receive a notification of parents' evening by letter. We ask that you ensure that your contact details are up to date to prevent important message being missed.

Should you wish to discuss the curriculum, and our ethos, please feel free to email Mr. L. Clark, Deputy Head Teacher for Quality of Education on liam.clark@consilium-at.com



Our Curriculum

Thornhill Academy offers excellent learning experiences to all its students through a diverse curriculum that caters for the needs of all. We have a carefully sequenced curriculum, which is ambitious for all students. Further information can be sought through our website.

Subjects offered at KS3 (Years 7 to 9):

- Art
- Design and Technology
- Drama
- English and reading
- Geography
- History
- Computer Science
- Maths
- Modern Foreign Languages
- Music
- Physical Education and Dance
- PSHCE
- Religious Studies
- Science

At KS4 (years 10 and 11) students make a curriculum preference, sometimes known as choosing options. Some subjects at KS4 are part of our 'core' offer and all students study them:

- English language and literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- History or Geography
- PSHE (including statutory RE)
- PE

Subjects can then identify their preference of subject. Currently we offer 2 additional preference from the list below:

- Art
- Enterprise
- French
- Further Mathematics
- Graphics
- Computing
- Catering and Hospitality
- Drama
- Engineering
- ICT
- Health and Social Care
- Music
- Photography
- Religious Studies
- Sport

These courses are subject to demand. Each year, we review our offer and may offer additional courses.



Pastoral Support

The Pastoral Team

The pastoral team within Thornhill aims to support all students with any pastoral needs. The team consists of a team of staff giving expert advice, guidance and support in their areas of specialism to students and staff including areas such as behaviour, attendance, safeguarding and mental health.

- Ms N Luke – Deputy Headteacher
- Miss L Coates – Head of Safeguarding and Wellbeing
- Mrs V Basford – Attendance Lead

In addition to these roles all students in Year 7 to 11 have a Head of Year who will lead on your child's day to day pastoral needs

- Head of Year – Miss J Coates
- Head of Year - Ms L Gray
- Head of Year - Mrs K Reed
- Head of Year - Mr B Armstrong
- Head of Year - Miss S Mills

Each tutor group has its own tutor who is integral to monitoring your child's progress and supporting them to develop positive learning habits. If you have any questions, concerns or queries regarding the academic progress or welfare of your child, you are encouraged to contact the tutor in the first instance or their Head of Year.

Student Welfare and Support Agencies

We believe that supporting your child through their years at Thornhill Academy is the key to their academic and lifelong success. We do this in many ways including through our tutor program, guidance curriculum and our enhanced support services onsite as well as through referrals and working in partnership with local agencies examples of onsite and external support are :

- School Counsellor
- CAMHS/CYPS referrals
- Early Help Worker
- Sex and Relationships Advice and support
- Drug and Alcohol Support and advice
- School Nursing services
- C-Card
- Wear Kids
- Social Prescribers
- Brook
- Emotional Resilience Nurse
- Together for children
- Community Policing Teams
- Gentoo
- Wear Side Women in Need

This list is not exhaustive and the Academy will seek to support students and families with any identified needs. Any questions in relation to this please contact Miss L Coates Head of Safeguarding and Wellbeing



SEND Provision

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

We are committed to providing a broad and balanced curriculum which meets the needs of all pupils, including those with additional needs. We aim to ensure all pupils receive a fulfilling educational experience. Pupils with additional educational needs have an individual support plan and they may receive differentiation and additional strategies in lessons to reduce their barriers to learning. This support will be reviewed on a termly basis with the pupil, parents / carers, and key members of staff. If required, the support plan will then be updated. Interventions are offered throughout the school on an individual and group basis depending on need and range from literacy and phonics support to an extensive range of additional agencies and counselling services.



Learning Support

Our Learning support area is a purposeful environment in which targeted and bespoke interventions are implemented to support students who require additional intervention.

A number of interventions take place within the area including those to support phonics, learning and cognition, sensory needs and communication and interaction difficulties. Staff within learning support, support the integration into mainstream lessons via outreach support which is regularly reviewed with staff students and parents.

The learning support area contains its own sensory room for students to access.



Thrive Provision

Our inclusive Thrive provision is carefully planned to cater for students who require intensive, purposeful support where their behaviour, attendance and social, emotional wellbeing or mental health is a barrier to their learning and or the learning of others.

The curriculum offer within Thrive is broad and balanced which enables a vast range of students to access the appropriate support. These sessions are delivered by social, emotional and mental health specialists over a 6 week period. This includes :

- Emotional Resilience
- Charge Up
- Sensory Play
- Lego Therapy
- Social Skills
- Friendship SOS
- Drawing and Talking therapy
- Raising Aspirations
- Co-regulation



Academy Uniform

The uniform at Thornhill Academy is intended to be fit for purpose in an educational setting. It helps students present themselves positively, gives them confidence to represent the academy and promotes a strong sense of identity. Students are expected to wear correct uniform throughout the school year. The items of the academy and PE uniform which are indicated below are purchased directly from Thornhill Academy's supplier, Little Gems, 259A, High Street West, Sunderland SR1 3DH.



MAIN ACADEMY UNIFORM		Guidance
Black Blazer embroidered (new school logo)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replacement of the blazer with an alternative jacket, hoody or tracksuit top is not allowed.
Formal white school shirt - to be tucked in		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is not a polo shirt.
School marron and silver striped tie		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The tie must be worn at all times.
Black knitted V Neck Jumper		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The jumper is a compulsory item and must be in school at all times This can be purchased from any High Street provider. School embroidered jumpers are not compulsory. Round neck sweatshirts are not an alternative. The wearing of the jumper does not replace the wearing of the blazer.
Black school shoes – Leather type		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Footwear must be 100% black with no logos. No trainers. No canvas material.
Dark coloured Waterproof Coat		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No hoodies, tracksuit tops, sweatshirts, denim jackets. Not to be worn under the blazer. Not to be worn inside of the building.
Black Tights	or Black/White Socks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No patterned tights.
Formal Black Trousers	or Black Charleston skirt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skirts must be a Black Charleston style skirt with a flat upper section and pleated lower section. Short 'tube' type designs are not acceptable. Trousers must not be denim, jeans or jean style. No leggings are allowed.
Black School Bag		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large enough to hold an A4 folder Pack bag or Tote bag style

Uniform and Equipment

Students must ensure that they attend school ready to learn and with suitable equipment to engage with their learning.

Students are expected to have the following equipment with them every day at school :

- Pencil case
- 2 black Pens
- 1 Green pen
- 2 Pencils
- Ruler

PE Uniform

PE UNIFORM	
Boys & Girls	Guidance
Navy Blue polo shirt	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School embroidered items are not compulsory.
Navy tracksuit bottoms or navy shorts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School embroidered items are not compulsory.
Navy or Black Legging	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must not be worn as part of the regular school uniform.
Football socks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Navy football socks
Footwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be sports trainers.• Football boots and shin pads may be required at times.
Important information to also note:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Long hair must be tied up.• All jewelry must be removed.• PE Kit is not optional. It is an essential requirement as part of the curriculum.



Outside of the classroom

At Thornhill Academy we wish to offer our students the widest range of opportunities we can. This will help us develop our students into well rounded citizens of modern Britain.

There are a number of ways we offer our students these opportunities this includes

- Regular co-curricular activities including sports team and musical activities
- Student leadership programmes, including sports, technology, music and literacy leaders
- Our student council
- A variety of trips and visits with local, national and international opportunities
- Rewards programme and trips, including Flamingo land
- Our Summer and Winter concerts.

The 2022- 2023 Academic year saw an increase in the outstanding opportunities and celebration of our Academy this includes a celebration of the wide and diverse culture of the Academy with a student led Culture week in which all students learned about all cultures represented at Thornhill Academy the week ended in a cultural dress day for all students.

Careers

We believe that providing high quality careers education and guidance is an integral part of every students' education.

At Thornhill Academy we strive to offer impartial and realistic careers information, advice and guidance to all of our students from Year 7 to 11.

We recognise that our students will be entering a very competitive labour market and because of this, we aim to equip every young person with not only the knowledge they will need but also skills such as financial capability, enterprise and employability.

Through our provision we aim to:

- Raise student ambition and achievement
- Support inclusion and promote equality of opportunity
- Encourage participation in lifelong learning, including further and higher education
- Develop enterprise and employability skills
- Encourage students to contribute positively to their communities



Transition

We understand that moving from primary school to Secondary school is a big step and can be stressful for both parents and students. Our transition team at Thornhill Academy are dedicated to making the process as smooth as possible and are looking forward to welcoming you to Thornhill.

During the academic year, our team will work to provide opportunities for you to meet staff and visit the school ahead of starting in September. This includes:

- Our Year 5 and 6 Open Evening in September
- Our Transition Induction Evening
- Our 3 day Transition visits in June

Further visits and activities can be arranged throughout the year including on a bespoke basis. Miss L Coates who leads Year 6 to 7 Transition, works closely with our partner schools and with Year 6 teachers to enable a smooth transition to secondary school. Please contact her with any queries or requests.

We get to know students and many parents before they become part of the Thornhill family so, when they do join us they feel happy, confident, and ready to learn. Parents can be assured of a close working relationship between home and the academy.

How to secure your place in our Year 7 2024

- Preference Forms are sent to parents/carers of Year 6 students by Sunderland City Council in early September.
- Please note there is a deadline for the forms to be returned to the Admission Team at Sunderland City Council. It is important the forms are returned by the deadline date in order to have the best chance of getting the place you want.
- Parents/carers are informed in March of the school place allocated to their child. Details of the common application process can be found at <http://sunderland.gov.uk> and by following the links > Apply > Schools > Apply for a school place.



Our Team

Senior Leadership Team

Headteacher

Mrs S. Hamilton

Deputy Headteacher

Ms N. Luke

Deputy Headteacher

Mr L. Clark

Assistant Headteacher

Mrs C. Crooks

**Assistant Headteacher
SEND & Inclusion**

Ms J. Stubbs

**Head of Safeguarding and
Wellbeing**

Miss L. Coates

Local Academy Board

Chair

D Nicholson

Member

A Parr

Member

J Robson

Member

V Basford

Member

D Todd

Member

A Miah

Member

W Olaifa





**Thornhill
Academy**

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THORNHILL ACADEMY
THORNHOLME ROAD
SUNDERLAND
SR2 7NA

0191 553 7735

thr-enquiries@consilium-at.com



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