



Prospectus



Morton Academy
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

Principal's Welcome





I am delighted to welcome you to Morton Academy. We are part of United Learning, a national group of academies, primaries, and independent schools, all of which strive to bring out 'the best in everyone'. Our school community is thriving and I am proud to be the Principal who gets to serve our wonderful students. We are an Ofsted rated 'Good' school which has been oversubscribed in Year 7 entries for the last seven years making us one of the most popular schools in the area.

I work alongside our dedicated staff, and talented students, and we are determined to make a positive impact in the lives of our students and their families. We serve the western area of Carlisle and are proud to be the school of choice in our community.

Our committed team of teachers and staff are dedicated to providing a high-quality education to our young people, equipping them with the skills they need to succeed in an ever-changing world. We aim to instil a love for learning, foster critical thinking abilities, and empower students to become lifelong learners.

We offer an ambitious academic curriculum, complemented by a diverse and exciting co-curricular programme. We want our students to be Made in Morton but ready to take their place in the world.

We are a happy school with high standards based on respect and relationships. We encourage our students to do the right thing because it is the right thing to do.

To learning more about our schools and our wonderful opportunities available to our students, I encourage you to visit our academy.

Mike McClelland
Principal



Vision and Ethos

Our vision is simple:
Morton Academy will be a great school in everything it does!



We want our students to benefit from excellent learning, from an interesting, aspirational curriculum delivered with enthusiasm and skill. We want our students to benefit from excellent assessments that diagnose misconceptions which then are addressed for the long term. We want to have the best pastoral support to develop our students' characters to make them the leaders of the future. We want the best facilities and rewards underpinned by high expectations and standards. Our vision comes to life in three strands for students:

1 The Morton Learner

Our curriculum mission is that we want our students to be Made in Morton and ready to take their place in the world. We do this by combining a rich series of topics, ideas and knowledge alongside the continual development of skills. We want our students to be exposed to the best ideas across all subject disciplines. Our approach to learning is straightforward, we believe learning is a change in long term memory. Our lessons always begin with memory retrieval practice to ensure previous knowledge

is revisited. Our lessons follow a structure of the introduction of a new idea or skill, time to explore this idea with the teacher followed by independent practice to develop that idea. We track how well our students build their learning and adjust the curriculum to ensure students move through their learning in a way that makes sense to them.

2 Morton Behaviour

Our expectations for behaviour is that students are expected to do the right thing because it is the right thing to do. We have high expectations of our students and ensure that no lessons are disrupted. We expect our students to be well dressed, well organised and approach their life in school in a mature and respectful way. Our students are friendly and welcoming and taken their role in our academy and local community seriously. We do not tolerate bullying and we celebrate difference. We work hard as a community to have purposeful and caring relationships to nurture our young people to be the best version of themselves.

3 Morton Character Virtues

At Morton Academy our virtues are a very important part of everything we do. We use these virtues as part of our every day language and directly link to our rewards system. At Morton Academy our whole community are completely invested in our mission, vision and virtues all of which align with the ethos and culture set by United Learning. These virtues underpin everything we do and are clear to see on a day-to-day basis. Every policy, procedure, interview and system have these three virtues at the centre. We expect all our staff to demonstrate and use them on a daily basis and encourage our students and their families to do the same. Our three virtues are outlined below.



The Three Core Virtues



Respectful — Display regard for others, their opinions and their beliefs, encompassing respect for self, staff, pupils and the wider community.



Responsible — Taking ownership of one's actions and consequences, demonstrating reliability, trustworthiness and accountability.



Resilient — Having the ability to bounce back from challenges and setbacks, maintain a positive mindset and persevere in the learning journey.

“To nurture kind and responsible young citizens who care for their community and who are committed to bettering themselves.”





Education with Character

Character Enrichment

Our 'Character Enrichment' programme is the developmental journey we want our students to experience during their time at the academy in parallel with their taught curriculum. The journey is characterised by a number of experiences and activities which are designed to educate the whole child. We want our children to leave Morton Academy with a fearless determination to seek their own future path and have the resilience to face the challenges life will bring. We define this to students as being 'Made in Morton'.

Alongside the taught curriculum, specifically in Personal Development, Morton Academy offers a wide range of clubs, subject specific enrichment opportunities, year specific experiences and whole school events.

Morton Academy's 'Pupil Charter' sets out the co-curricular experiences which we believe should be every pupil's right.

Our Curriculum

At Morton Academy, our aim is to provide an excellent education for all our students; an education which brings out the best in all of our students. Our curriculum reflects our character virtues of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience, and has been designed to be cohesive, rigorous and academically challenging. It is sequenced carefully to allow the acquisition of 'powerful knowledge' which will allow all students to be successful in education and later life. We want students to see themselves in our curriculum; to maximise their cognitive development, develop the whole person and their talents and ultimately become active and economically self-sufficient citizens.

Our curriculum is:

- Fully compliant with all statutory aspects.
- Designed with the needs of our local community very much at the forefront of our thinking.
- Broad and balanced, yet able to be flexible for specific academic or organisational requirements.
- Established to support teaching and learning to improve significantly in all areas.



Key Stage 3

Our students study a curriculum focussed on the key subject areas of maths and English.

Key stage 3 students can expect to study a wide range of subjects between year 7 and 9 including:

- Science
- Geography
- History
- Physical Education
- Computing
- Art
- Beliefs, Philosophy and Ethics
- Spanish
- Design and Technology
- Music
- Performing Arts



Key Stage 4

Students have access to a wide range of GCSE and Level 2 Vocational Courses for KS4 study. Students choose their options towards the end of Year 9 following a supportive process which enables students to consider their strengths and talents and their future career plans.

Students choose four additional courses alongside their core GCSEs of English Language, English Literature, Mathematics and Science.

Optional pathways include:

- History
- Geography
- Spanish
- RE
- PE
- Animal Care
- Computer Science
- Business Studies
- Art
- Engineering/Construction
- Hospitality and Catering
- Music
- Performing Arts
- Creative Media



Co-Curriculum

Morton Academy provides a wide selection of opportunities to extend learning beyond the classroom. Academic excellence is incredibly important but so is the need to ensure students have a range of experiences available to them. We call this the 'Co-Curriculum'.

This includes a wide range of sporting opportunities for both male and female students often leading to participation in county and national competitions.

There are opportunities for students to be involved in musical and dramatic performances every year. A vast array of trips and visits occur every year also.

In addition to this there is a weekly diet of clubs and activities that students can attend at lunchtime or after school.

These function alongside the curriculum and include:

Battle of the Bands, Rounders, Debate Team, Dungeons and Dragons, Darts, Morton's Top Chef Competition, Choir, Board Game Club, Film Club, Nintendo Switch Club, Cross-stitch Club, Girls' Football, Cricket, Rock/Pop Band Club, Origami Club, Netball and many more.

The clubs on offer change termly to reflect student feedback.



Student Leadership Team

Morton Academy is fortunate to have a number of students who are keen to have a say in how the academy is organised and managed. This is a vital resource for leaders to ensure that the voice of students is heard in key decisions. The student panel is always involved in the appointment of new staff and students' views are taken into account when looking at the quality of teaching and learning.

Student leadership is organised as follows:

- We have '**House Captains**' for our Hadrian, Luguvalium and Valentia house teams. These students also carry out roles as '**PE Ambassadors**'.
- These students work alongside a team of '**Assistant PE Ambassadors**' and a more extensive team of '**PE Leaders**'.
- Alongside this, we have **Community Ambassadors**, who lead a number of **Community Leaders**.



Teaching and Learning

The Morton Academy Lesson	
Retrieval Practice	5-10 minute self-marked/whiteboard 'recall' activity based on prior learning.
I Do, We Do, You Do	A sequence of teaching that allows students to be guided through mastery of new content. I Do – students actively listen as they are presented with new information by the teacher. This may involve modelling of ideas or how to answer specific questions. We Do – all students are checked for understanding. This may be through cold call questioning, turn and talk discussions or whole class use of mini whiteboards. You Do – students are given time to independently practice application of the new content before reviewing their work and making any improvements.
Review	A final task which combines the content of the lesson into one consolidating task.

The quality of teaching and learning in every lesson, every day is hugely important to us at the academy.

We have high expectations of every student and it is our responsibility to provide them with the support, guidance and challenge they need to succeed.

We have a simple approach to teaching and learning that we believe supports this. Every lesson falls within the Morton Academy lesson structure.

The Academy day

Tutor Time: 08:35 to 09:00

Period 1: 09:00 to 10:40

Break: 10:40 to 11:05

Period 2: 11:05 to 12:45

Lunch: 12:45 to 13:30

Period 3: 13:30 to 15:10

Annual assessments and reporting

Assessments at Morton Academy supports our culture of high expectations and ambition. The majority of assessments take place formatively in lessons through regular checking of understanding, which is used to move learning forward. Formal assessments are used at key points in the year, usually January and June, to identify gaps in knowledge and to inform next steps in learning. You will be provided with a summary report after these assessments which will show both students' attainment and their progress compared to their peers.

Celebrating Success

At Morton Academy we have a positive culture. We focus on the positive behaviour and praise, celebrate and reward students for demonstrating these behaviours. Developing a positive learning environment and good learning habits are rooted in United Learning and Morton Academy's values of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience. Students who make good choices around positive learning behaviour will be recognised, rewarded and celebrated.

Students receive rewards in several ways:

Character Virtue Merit	For students who actively demonstrate our 'Character Virtues' of Respect, Resilience and Responsibility.
Academic Achievement Merit	Can be rewarded to students for producing outstanding work within a lesson.
Weekly Star Nomination	Students who exemplify several values of being a 'Model Mortoner' are considered.
Home Learning Star Nomination	Students who surpass the expectations of homework requirements.
Principal's Star of the Week	Is announced at the end of each week.
Bronze, Silver and Gold Award	Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards are presented to students for achieving a specific number of merit points throughout each academic year. Merit points are accrued through a combination of the rewards above.

Students also have the opportunity to compete against other students in their year group for an invitation to attend reward trips during the academic year. There is also an end of year reward trip for KS3 students. Traditionally, this is to Blackpool Pleasure Beach. The criteria to receive an invite on reward trips relates to student's continuous display of our Character Values and Virtues.

Our 'Celebration of Success' evening takes place annually. This event formally recognises student achievement and effort during the academic year. Individual subject departments nominate students to receive an award. Alongside these awards, we present special awards relating to our Character Values and Virtues.



Supporting Students with Additional Needs

At Morton Academy we work as a team to provide support for students with a variety of needs. Students receive support through many different ways, including Teaching Assistants in a classroom, access to a calm quiet area for one to one or small group intervention and most importantly quality first teaching. Our staff understand the importance of adaptive and tailored teaching and learning experiences, this remains a priority for our Academy so we can ensure inclusivity for all students regardless of their needs.

We have a skilled and experienced safeguarding team who will work closely with students, parents and external agencies. We pride ourselves on delivering excellent care and ensure that every student is listened to with compassion and understanding.

Staff receive specialised training in a variety of areas including domestic abuse. The Academy is proud to be a DASV Champion, educating young people about healthy relationships.

Admissions Year 7 places

180 places are available. Cumberland Council administers admissions for students from 11-16 years of age in the same way as for other local schools. Information and application forms will be made available through primary schools in September for completion and submission in October in their Year 6. Those offered places will be notified in the following March.

Although applications can be made for students wherever they live, priority for places will be in line with the criteria as detailed in the Admissions Policy.

Uniform Information

Uniform

The purpose of Morton Academy uniform is to ensure that students are able to present themselves in a smart manner with a degree of commonality.

We aim to maintain a high standard of dress at all times and expect uniform to be worn smartly (eg ties worn correctly, shirts tucked in, skirt at knee length etc).



Academy logo blazer



Grey pleated logo skirt (optional)



Academy logo jumper (optional)



Smart grey trousers



White buttoned cotton shirt

Academy tie

Smart black shoes

Plain black socks (ankle or knee length without bows) or black tights

PE Kit

We have an Academy PE kit which you will be expected to bring with you on days when you have PE, dance and active co-curricular clubs.

Compulsory PE Kit



Morton Academy logo blue and white PE t-shirt



Morton Academy logo blue PE shorts/jogging bottoms

Plain navy football socks

Appropriate footwear (trainers/football boots in any colour)

Gum-shield (for rugby)

Shin pads (for football)

Bobble for long hair

Optional PE Kit

Morton Academy logo blue and white track top

Plain navy/blue/black leggings

Morton Academy hoodie

Make-Up, Hairstyles and Jewellery

The Academy's policy does not allow piercings, jewellery, make-up or extreme hairstyles.

Morton Academy uniform can be purchased from: www.yourschooluniform.com/schools/index/the-morton-school-4989



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