



Morton Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning





INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Morton Academy. We are an Ofsted rated good school with a long track record of improvement. We are a community school in every sense of the word helping students from the west of Carlisle to fulfil their potential and be the best that they can be.

As the Principal of Morton Academy, I am privileged to lead our team of colleagues who are determined to make a positive difference to the lives of our young people. This is a small, happy school built on effective relationships and high expectations.

Our students benefit from state-of-the-art facilities, excellent outdoor space and a broad curriculum which focusses on ensuring that students master skills and acquire a deep understanding of a range of subjects, topics and ideas. We want our students to experience the best in each subject area delivered by well trained, committed subject specialists.

We take our role in the lives of our students seriously. We nurture our young people to be resilient and independent. We encourage respect and enthusiasm. We want our students to be scholarly and aspirational. As part of United Learning we believe our mission is to bring out the best in everyone. At Morton Academy, this is what we seek to be every lesson, every day.

I would be delighted to welcome you to Morton Academy, please do not hesitate to contact us to arrange a visit.

Richard McGuire
Principal

Creativity...
to imagine possibilities
and make them real

VISION AND ETHOS

Our vision is simple: Morton Academy will be a great school community 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 are then 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 3 strands for students:

The Morton Learner

- **Being ambitious** – having high aspirations, setting goals and reaching them.
- **Being confident** – presenting opinions, sharing ideas and speaking aloud.
- **Being creative** – having the ability to use imaginative ideas and approaches.
- **Being respectful** – having empathy and crafting effective relationships.
- **Being enthusiastic** – taking advantage of opportunities regularly.
- **Being determined** – coping with difficult tasks, showing independence and being resilient.

Morton Behaviour

Students and staff have the right to disruption free learning, every lesson of every day. At our academy we take the behaviour, conduct and appearance of our students seriously. We have high expectations and are relentless in trying to create a harmonious and effective atmosphere.

Effective relationships are key to this. Senior Leaders are visible and on duty every day. Students have Form Tutors, Heads of Year and Pastoral Leaders. Bullying is rare but if it does happen it is taken seriously and effective actions occur swiftly.

We are quick to reward students for their positive behaviour too and have regular rewards assemblies led by the Principal.

The Morton Pledge

We offer our students a wide range of activities and experiences. These are best encapsulated in our Morton Milestones. Each year our students take part in extra-curricular activities that stretch their skills beyond the classroom. Whether it is the Year 7 Speech Showcase, Year 8 Community Project, Year 9 Design an App, Year 10 50 Mile Walk or the Year 11 Interview Day, our students' characters are developed. We want our students to represent the academy in sporting activities, to perform in our drama and musical performances and to be an active part of our Student Council.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

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 an elected Head Boy and Head Girl who lead the Student Council made up of representatives from all year groups. Elections take place every year that involve students presenting their views on school priorities to assemblies.

Student leaders meet regularly with the Principal to discuss their ideas for the future and they are responsible for the organisation of the many charity events we hold each year. Student leaders also support the academy welcoming visitors to the site and being ambassadors at local and national events.



THE MORTON PLEDGE

My school will:

- Support its students' spiritual, emotional, moral, cultural and physical development to bring out the best in everyone;
- Celebrate my academic, sporting or creative talents;
- Offer me an extensive range of sport, music, drama, art and other activities after school;
- Provide me with a good learning experience, every lesson, every day;
- Give me the chance for my views about my school to be listened to;
- Help prepare me for life after I leave the school.

Every year:

- I will have had the opportunity to play a musical instrument, sing in a choir, participate in a sporting festival/competition, or be involved in a dramatic production;
- I will have had the opportunity to listen to inspirational speakers;
- I will have been taken to an artistic, cultural or sporting event;
- I will have had the opportunity to help others through voluntary activities, fundraising or enterprise;
- I will have had the opportunity to meet and work with students from other United Learning schools.

During my time at school:

- I will have been given the opportunity to go on a residential trip;
- I will have taken part in a debate or public speaking event (internal or external);
- I will have been offered the opportunity to develop leadership and character through student council, sports ambassadors, digital leaders or other opportunities;
- I will have had the chance to develop a skill for life in Modern Britain;
- I will have completed a 'Morton Milestone'.

Ambition...
to achieve the best for ourselves and others



THE UNITED LEARNING FAMILY

Morton Academy is sponsored by United Learning (UL).

United Learning is a group of schools which aims to provide excellent education to children and young people across the country. We seek to improve the life chances of all the children and young people we serve and make it our mission to bring out the best in everyone – students, staff, parents and the wider community. We are uniquely united across both the state and the independent sectors; we make learning and improvement our focus. We currently educate over 40,000 students and employ over 7,000 members of staff including over 3,000 teachers.

We provide a broad education, which prepares young people to progress in learning and to make a success of their lives. We focus sharply on the evidence of what makes it more likely that young people will progress and succeed, apply that to our practice and continue to learn and develop our schools. We make it a priority to provide teachers with excellent professional support and development, so that every child receives an excellent experience.

Through being a group, we can offer more to both staff and young people than any single school could offer alone. The growing range of outstanding group-wide activities that we can provide will mean that more young people will have truly exceptional and inspiring experiences. Already, we believe that our group contains the most developed relationships and practical interaction between independent and state schools in the country, creating benefits for all the schools involved.



Confidence...
to have the courage of our convictions and to take risks in the right cause

UNITED LEARNING: THE BEST IN EVERYONE

Our approach is underpinned by a sense of moral purpose and commitment to doing what is right for children and young people, supporting colleagues to achieve excellence and acting with integrity in all our dealings within and beyond the organisation, in the interests of young people everywhere.

We summarise this ethos as the best in everyone. This underpins our core values:

- **Ambition** – to achieve the best for ourselves and others
- **Confidence** – to have the courage of our convictions and to take risks in the right cause
- **Creativity** – to imagine possibilities and make them real
- **Respect** – of ourselves and others in all that we do
- **Enthusiasm** – to seek opportunity, find what is good and pursue talents and interests
- **Determination** – to overcome obstacles and reach success.

GOVERNANCE

The Local Governing Body provides support and challenge to the Academy on behalf of the United Learning Group Board. It does this through providing strategic direction at a local level, promoting high standards and educational achievement. The Academy, through the LGB, is accountable to the United Learning Group Board.



OUR LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

We have a range of spectacular facilities available to students and staff within our state-of-the-art building and 31 acres of landscaped grounds.

They allow us to deliver the very best learning and enrichment experiences in all subject areas.

We are also able to adapt and tailor them to suit the learning needs of our students and really bring the curriculum to life.

Our specialist facilities include:

- 360 seat theatre
- Music technology classroom, music rehearsal rooms and recording studio
- Art studios
- Science laboratories and university standard 'superlab'
- Workshops and 'super workshops' for textiles, food technology, electronics, product design and resistant materials
- Sport England standard sports hall, fitness suite and extensive playing fields.

Respect...
of ourselves and others
in all that we do



A LEARNING JOURNEY

Our curriculum is designed to promote innovation in teaching and learning whilst remaining rooted in key traditional skills that our students will need to help them make their contribution to society in their later years. We want our students to aim to achieve beyond what they perceive their potential to be. We want our students to be inspired and in turn inspire our teachers to deliver the very best.

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
- Designed to ensure the Academy is positioned well in the changing assessment and national measures reforms
- 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
- ICT
- Art
- Religious Education
- Modern Foreign Languages
- Design and Technology
- Music
- Performing Arts



Key Stage 4

Students pick their Key Stage 4 options in year 9. Our options strategy is based on a guided options principle ensuring all students are well informed about curriculum choices. We believe in allotting more curriculum time to a smaller selection of options provides our students with good service. Students will have dedicated blocks to choose from based on consultation with students and parents and taking into account the needs of each cohort. Students will study the core subjects and are also entitled to PSHCE and two periods of Physical Education each week:

Core:

- GCSE English Language
- GCSE English Literature
- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE Science

Other Pathways:

- GCSE Art and Design
- GCSE Design Technology
- BTEC Creative Media
- OCR Level 1/2 Engineering Design
- NCFE CACHE Level 2 Award in Child Development and Care
- NCFE Level 1/2 Technical Award in Health and Fitness
- WJEC Level 1/2 Award in Hospitality and Catering
- GCSE Religious Studies
- BTEC First in Animal Care
- GCSE Music
- BTEC Level 2 Tech Award in Performing Arts

English Baccalaureate:

- GCSE Geography
- GCSE History
- GCSE Spanish

Beyond the Classroom – 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 after school. These function alongside the curriculum and include: Computer Coding Club, Film Review Club, Musical Theatre Club, Couch to 5K Running Club, Songwriting Club, Ceramic Art, Debate Society, Fishing Club, Outdoor Skills Club and many more.

Enthusiasm...
**to seek opportunity, find what is good
and pursue talents and interests**



CAREERS

Morton Academy's aim is for all students to fulfil their potential.

As such, the Academy recognises the importance of effective Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) for young people and we expect all our students to develop high aspirations and consider a broad and ambitious range of careers. We aim to inspire every student through more real-life contacts with the world of work to help them understand where different choices can take them in the future. We also seek to ensure that our students are not restricted by circumstances or location from becoming self-confident, well-educated and enterprising individuals. We measure our success by our students' destinations.

Further details can be found in our Academy CEIAG Policy.



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 differentiated 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.

Safeguarding: 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. Safeguarding is embedded in every staff member's practice.

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.

Student Attendance

Excellent attendance and punctuality are a top priority; if students aren't present they aren't learning. We expect all students to maintain an attendance of 100%.

Our Attendance Team is on hand to assist with any concerns that may affect attendance and will offer formal support for students who have attendance below 93%. We strongly discourage term-time holidays. Therefore, the Principal will only authorise these in exceptional circumstances. Unauthorised holiday absence may result in a fine of £60 per child, per parent being issued. More information is available on our website.

THE UNIFORM

- Girls'/Boys' Blazers (Royal Blue with Logo)
- Girls'/Boys' Grey V Neck Sweaters (these can be optional in the warmer weather)
- Girls' Grey Cardigans (these can be optional in the warmer weather)
- Boys'/Girls' White Shirts
- Clip on Tie
- Boys'/Girls' Grey Trousers
- Girls' Grey Skirts (jersey skirts are not allowed and skirts should be at least knee length)
- Tights can be either black or natural
- Plain black leather shoes (no coloured flashes or laces. Boots and trainers are not allowed)

PE Kit

- Blue and white polo shirt (short sleeved)
- Blue shorts with Academy logo
- Skort with Academy logo (optional)
- Blue sports socks
- Blue tracksuit with Academy logo (optional)

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

Branded items such as the blazer, tie, jumper and PE kit can all be purchased from the Uniform Shop in Denton Holme.



Determination...
to overcome
obstacles
and reach
success



ADMISSIONS

The Academy Day

Tutor Time:	08:35 to 08:55
Period 1:	08:55 to 09:45
Period 2:	09:45 to 10:35
Period 3:	10:35 to 11:25
Break:	11:25 to 11:50
Period 4:	11:50 to 12:40
Period 5:	12:40 to 13:30
Lunch:	13:30 to 14:10
Period 6:	14:10 to 15:00

Year 7 Places

180 places are available in each Year Group.

Cumbria County 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.

Apply to join the Academy in other year groups and for in-year admissions:

Applications for places in other year groups can be made by completing an In-Year Admissions Form and returning to the Academy. A copy of the form can be downloaded from our website, or alternatively contact the Academy for a copy:

Admissions
Morton Academy
Wigton Road
Carlisle
CA2 6LB

t 01228 822 644
e info@rrma.org.uk
www.rrma.org.uk

Morton Academy
Wigton Road, Carlisle,
Cumbria CA2 6LB



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Part of United Learning

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