



Paxman
ACADEMY

PROSPECTUS 2021



“Succeeding together, engaging minds”

The Academy

Paxman Academy is a co-educational, fully comprehensive 11-16 academy. Of the 360 students that have been admitted to the Academy so far, the majority come from Shrub End and surrounding areas, with the remainder from other parts of Colchester. In its first two years of opening, the Academy has been a popular choice and is heavily over-subscribed.

The Academy has a STEM focus and works with other organisations to enhance the quality of provision. We also share our excellent facilities across Sigma schools in Colchester to enhance provision in a number of subject areas.

Paxman Academy prides itself on the quality of its staff. The combination of experience, expertise, enthusiasm and commitment ensures that students, parents and carers receive the best possible service.

The Academy has state of the art buildings. The excellent specialist facilities include:

- Six science laboratories that have been equipped to the highest standard
- Excellent technology facilities, including two well-equipped workshops
- A computer suite, equipped with the most up to date hardware
- A large auditorium to enable high quality performances to take place
- A dance studio with a sprung floor
- A drama studio
- A music suite, including three practice rooms and a control room for the auditorium
- A large sports hall
- Large playing fields
- An artificial 3G pitch (currently under construction)
- A library
- The latest classroom technology to enhance students' learning experiences





The Trust's Mission

To be '**Greater Than the Sum of Its Parts**' represents the mission statement for Sigma Trust.

The Trust believe we are stronger and more successful working together than we would be as separate institutions. The mission for each academy within Sigma Trust is to ensure that no child is left behind. Education should foster in its learners a curiosity to discover who they are and what they are capable of, together with developing the resilience for them to test the boundaries of their abilities, and build the skills necessary to face the future with confidence.

The Trust's Vision

The Trust's vision is to ensure that all of its academies are at least 'Good' with strong and improving outcomes and are able to demonstrate outstanding provision.

The Trust's Values

- **Integrity:** be honest, transparent, trustworthy and true to your beliefs.
- **Passion:** be positive and enthusiastic about what you are trying to achieve.
- **Aspiration:** aim for your best and set high, realistic goals.
- **Resilience:** never give up and strive to improve.
- **Accountability:** take responsibility for your words, thoughts and actions.
- **Respect:** for yourself, your environment and other people.



Expectations

None of the aforementioned can be achieved without a fair, consistent approach to discipline, mutual respect and an acceptance of rules and procedures which are designed to maximise the benefits of school life for all members of the community. In a secondary school it is necessary for all students, parents, carers and staff to share an understanding that all students are expected to:

- Work hard to achieve their academic potential in class and through homework
- Respect others and themselves
- Attend regularly and be punctual
- Wear uniform correctly
- Be properly equipped for all lessons
- Take advantage of opportunities available to them
- Approach any teacher or Head of Year with any concern that they may have.

Teachers are expected to:

- Treat students with the respect that they deserve
- Have high expectations of students and encourage them to have high expectations of themselves
- Maintain commitment to their professional development
- Encourage students to participate in the extra-curricular life of the school

Teaching and Learning

We are committed to providing the best learning opportunities for our students. We believe that effective learning is derived from high quality teaching with high expectations, which inspire, motivate and challenge students. This is achieved by regular review and reflection of classroom practice so that teachers are able to develop as professionals and meet the needs of a changing world.

Curriculum

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum at Paxman Academy. We provide opportunities to build upon students' primary school studies, but also believe that students have an entitlement to new experiences that will develop them physically, emotionally, linguistically, culturally and academically to ensure that they develop and enhance skills for their future learning and for life in the UK.

Our curriculum is designed to challenge and stretch students; there is a focus on the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) subjects (English, Mathematics, Science, Computing, Geography, History, French, German and Spanish), but time is given to also develop creativity and flair in other areas, such as Art, Music, Drama and Technology.



Underpinning all of this there is an emphasis on the development of communication, reasoning and problem solving skills to support our STEM focus and to prepare students for life beyond school. Alongside this encompassing curriculum, an extensive range of enrichment activities are planned such as trips and visits as well as visitors to the Academy. These will aim to increase the amount of cultural capital that students will gain, whether related to the curriculum or developing students' knowledge to enable them to become successful adults. We will further cultivate this through Deep Learning days, being involved in Maths and Science weeks and by providing opportunities for our students to be involved in performance.

High expectations run through all areas of the curriculum; aspirational targets are set for all students. In all year groups, careers guidance gives students independent advice for their future aspirations, which is strengthened by regular visits from professionals and organisations.

Well qualified and dedicated staff convey a passion for their subject and a desire for students to succeed. Through rigorous and targeted assessments, students will progress through their curriculum, developing independence and resilience.

Weekly assemblies are held to allow students to reflect on life in 21st Century Britain and to further understand the British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, respect and tolerance.

Daily tutor time enables staff to deliver an effective and extensive programme of PSHE. Citizenship and Beliefs, Philosophy & Ethics lessons also build upon this programme, leading our students to become informed, responsible young adults when they leave Paxman Academy.



Character Education

We place a great deal of importance on the development of character amongst our students. We use character education as a conduit through which we instil our ASPIRE virtues and this runs through the core of everything we do. At key stage three students have dedicated curriculum time to study the virtues associated with character development. Focusing on important life skills and challenging real life scenarios we aim to fully prepare our students for the rigorous demands of 21st century life.

Working closely with and supporting our local community runs centrally through our approach to character education. We give our students the opportunity to contribute to their community and have a positive impact outside the walls of the school.

Opportunities to develop character and embody our ASPIRE virtues can be found across all subjects taught at the school as well as in our approach to extra-curricular activities and student support.

SEND

The Academy's policy on special educational needs follows the Department for Education Code of Practice (2015) on the identification and assessment of special educational needs.

Our curriculum policy states that each student should have access to a curriculum that is broad, balanced and meets their needs. The education of students with special needs is co-ordinated by the SENDCO and the Learning Support team.

All staff support students with SEND and high aspirations are set within pupil passports and planning meetings.

The Learning Support team also liaise with outside agencies e.g. Educational Psychology Service and Social Care in order to provide best quality support.



Pastoral Care

Paxman Academy seeks to provide a caring atmosphere within which each student can prosper. This depends on mutual respect, self-discipline and a willingness to work with others. The Academy places great emphasis on the traditional values of courtesy, tolerance and perseverance.

Form tutors are responsible for the welfare and discipline of their students and for monitoring their educational progress. This work is supported by the pastoral team and a Head of Year.

Disciplinary sanctions are used as appropriate. However staff believe strongly that praise and encouragement are powerful motivators which should be used whenever possible.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Paxman Academy provides a range of extra-curricular activities including sport, cultural and recreational activities. Already we are beginning to develop a strong reputation for sport and the arts. These opportunities take place both during and after the school day.

Students are encouraged to develop existing skills and to discover new ones.



The School Day

08.35 – 09:00 **Registration**

09:00 – 10:00 **Period 1**

10:00 – 11:00 **Period 2**

11:00 – 11:20 **Break**

11:20 – 12:20 **Period 3**

12:20 – 13:20 **Period 4**

13:20 – 14:00 **Lunch**

14:00 – 15:00 **Period 5**





School Uniform

GIRLS		BOYS	
Blazer	Royal blue with school badge (purchased from Anglia Sports and Schoolwear)	Blazer	Royal blue with school badge (purchased from Anglia Sports and Schoolwear)
Skirt	Plain mid-grey all round pleated skirt (minimum length of 20")	Trousers	Plain mid-grey tailored trousers
Trousers	Plain mid-grey tailored trousers		
School Shirt	White, in a style that allows a tie to be worn (top button should be fastened)	School Shirt	White, in a style that allows a tie to be worn (top button should be fastened)
School Tie	Tie with school logo (purchased from Anglia Sports and Schoolwear)	School Tie	Tie with school logo (purchased from Anglia Sports and Schoolwear)
School Jumper (optional)	Blue V-neck with contrast green trim (purchased from Anglia Sports and Schoolwear)	School Jumper (optional)	Blue V-neck with contrast green trim (purchased from Anglia Sports and Schoolwear)
Shoes	Black, plain, flat-heeled with closed backs and toes. (NOT trainers, boots or canvas shoes). Boots may be worn to travel to and from school in bad weather, but must be changed on arrival.	Shoes	Black formal shoes only (NOT trainers, boots or canvas shoes). Boots may be worn for travel to and from school in bad weather, but must be changed on arrival.
Hosiery	Plain black tights or plain white ankle socks. (Knee high socks are not permitted as part of the uniform.)	Socks	Plain, dark
Jewellery	Small ear studs - plain; one per ear - NO other studs or piercings. One watch.	Jewellery	Small ear studs - plain; one per ear - NO other studs or piercings. One watch.
Make-up and Nails	Any face make-up must be discreet. False nails and nail varnish are NOT permitted		
Coats	Coats should be long enough to cover the blazer. Denim, leather or hoodies are not acceptable.	Coats	Coats should be long enough to cover the blazer. Denim, leather or hoodies are not acceptable.
Hairstyles	Extreme hairstyles such as tramlines, unnatural colours and streaks are NOT acceptable. NB: Long hair must be tied up for practical subjects.	Hairstyles	Extreme hairstyles such as tramlines, unnatural colours and streaks and hair length of less than number 1 are NOT acceptable.
Accessories	Hair slides, ribbon etc. - navy, plain. Unusual items of clothing e.g. brightly coloured hats/scarves are NOT acceptable.	Accessories	Unusual items of clothing e.g. brightly coloured hats/scarves are NOT acceptable.

GIRLS	BOYS
<p>PE Kit</p> <p>Unisex Short sleeve Sports T-shirt, performance fabric & Logo (purchased from Anglia Sports and Schoolwear)</p> <p>Unisex Long Sleeve Sports Sweatshirt, ¼ zip & Logo (optional: purchased from Anglia Sports and Schoolwear)</p> <p>Unisex shorts & Logo (purchased from Anglia Sports and Schoolwear)</p> <p>Long sports socks with name down leg (purchased from Anglia Sports and Schoolwear)</p> <p>Navy tracksuit bottoms. (optional: purchased from Anglia Sports and Schoolwear) Tracksuit bottoms may only be worn between October and March.</p> <p>Trainers with non-marking soles</p> <p>Football boots or astro-style trainers</p>	<p>PE Kit</p> <p>Unisex Short sleeve Sports T-shirt, performance fabric & Logo (purchased from Anglia Sports and School wear)</p> <p>Unisex Long Sleeve Sports Sweatshirt, ¼ zip & Logo (optional: purchased from Anglia Sports and Schoolwear)</p> <p>Unisex shorts & Logo (purchased from Anglia Sports and Schoolwear)</p> <p>Long sports socks with name down leg (purchased from Anglia Sports and Schoolwear)</p> <p>Navy tracksuit bottoms. (optional: purchased from Anglia Sports and Schoolwear) Tracksuit bottoms may only be worn between October and March.</p> <p>Trainers with non-marking soles</p> <p>Football boots or astro-style trainers</p>

Pre-Application Visits

The Headteacher welcomes enquiries from interested parties.

Information regarding Open Events can be found on the school website.





Paxman ACADEMY

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