

# FalmerAcademy

Prospectus 2010

Believe you can



*'An entrepreneur  
is prepared to go  
that little bit further'*



## Message from the Principal

I am delighted to have been appointed as Principal Designate of Falmer Academy.

The Academy, an all ability state funded school, will be a fantastic opportunity for everyone involved. It will provide an outstanding learning environment for all the community and have a 21st century building equipped with the most up-to-date technology and resources that will inspire learning in every student. The unique combination of our specialisms - Entrepreneurship and Sport will be used to drive up standards of attainment and promote a 'can do' culture where every student will be successful.

I will have very high expectations of all students and will want to combine innovation with traditional values of good behaviour, attendance and punctuality with a smart uniform; in a culture of respect. Providing first-class learning opportunities that will enable students to reach their full potential in an environment where students come first is my main priority. I will want to work with parents and carers to ensure that positive attitudes to learning support all that we do. I believe that there is no limit to what students can achieve.

The Academy will open in September 2010 and be phased into a new building by 2011. We will play an active part in the community and we have a strong commitment to seeking and valuing the views of parents and carers as well as other local organisations. I believe that every child does matter and will ensure that students are given responsibility and a voice in the Academy.

We will offer a dynamic and personalised curriculum, delivered through an ethos of entrepreneurship. Teachers will create a learning environment that is exciting and motivating for every student. Students will be taught how to learn and are expected to share in the responsibility for their learning. They will be encouraged to think creatively and will be expected to complete schoolwork and homework to high standards.

I believe that together we can secure the future of the Academy, as a beacon of excellence for all students, at the heart of the community.

I look forward to meeting you all at the open evening on October 1st at Falmer High School.

### **Phil Hogg**

Principal  
Falmer Academy

## Message from the Sponsor

I am delighted that you are interested in securing a place for your child at Falmer Academy. My vision for the Academy is to transform learning for students and create opportunities for the local community.

Your child will be joining a new Academy at an exciting time and will benefit from new buildings and facilities which have been designed to create an inspirational learning environment.

I chose to become the Academy's sponsor because I am fully committed to supporting young people and improving educational achievement. The Academy's defining feature is its entrepreneurship specialism, which will be taught as a curriculum subject and will become embedded across all aspects of school life. This approach nurtures the students' entrepreneurial capabilities, equipping them with an understanding of business while also developing the life skills to help them succeed in whatever career they chose. Our aim is to provide a unique entrepreneurial hub at the heart of the Academy which will encourage entrepreneurial activity by students, local businesses, business start-ups and other community groups.

The second specialism of sport will enable us to work closely with local providers, to develop a culture of sporting excellence at the Academy. Both specialisms are broad enough that all students will be able to find areas of interest to develop their expertise and maintain their motivation for school.

I was born and educated in the local area and will take an active and ongoing interest in the future of the Academy. Success for me is about creating a positive environment where your child can realise their future potential. Our message to the students is 'Believe you can'.

I look forward to working with everyone involved to make my vision a reality.

### **Rod Aldridge**

Sponsor  
The Aldridge Foundation



## Our Sponsor



THE  
ALDRIDGE  
FOUNDATION



# Believe you can!

## Vision

Falmer Academy will provide exceptional opportunities for personal and academic success for our students and the community.

2 It will create an environment of high expectations, aspirations and self-belief.

## Mission

### Every child matters

The Academy will ensure that students come first. We want our students, no matter what their age, to be proud of the Academy and their personal achievements. Whatever our students' background, we want them to be in a position to move on to a successful life beyond school - whether it is in education, employment or training.

### Culture for learning

The Academy will create a positive climate for learning with high expectations. It will be a calm purposeful school where everyone feels valued. It will raise students' aspirations to develop them as confident healthy individuals. Students will be encouraged to develop a sense of integrity, compassion and tolerance throughout the community, which values self-esteem alongside respect for others.

### Teaching for learning

The Academy will maximise the performance and fulfil the potential of all students through high quality learning and teaching.

It will be a place where students' desire for learning is met by the passionate commitment of all staff to ensure exceptional achievement. The Academy will offer an enjoyable, challenging and relevant curriculum.

### Resources for learning

The Academy will develop a business like school which prepares the students for the world of the 21st Century. It will work with others to build partnerships between local organisations, business and education communities to create learning opportunities for the whole community.

Our Sponsor, Rod Aldridge, is determined to give young people the chance to recognise and make best use of their talents so that they have real choices both at school and in their future. This is reflected in the choice of Entrepreneurship and Sport as the Academy's specialisms. These subjects are wide and varied enough to give all students a chance to develop a wide range of skills and interests.

The Academy will have new, state-of-the-art buildings, with a phased programme from 2010. The new facilities will include an Entrepreneurship Centre, which will promote business, vocational and social enterprise activities.

## Entrepreneurship will give young people:

- a determination to succeed and see their ideas through to completion
- the confidence to achieve their goals
- the ability to take risks, accept failure and adopt different approaches
- the skills to be able to make full use of every opportunity, for both their own and others' benefit
- the self-awareness to take responsibility for their own actions.

*'We want students to believe that they can'*

## Sport, the Academy's second specialism, will complement the skills developed through Entrepreneurship.

Through Sport our students will learn how to be effective in competitive, creative and challenging situations within the Academy and beyond. An exciting PE curriculum will also give students an appreciation of the value of healthy, active lifestyles and help them make healthy lifestyle choices.

The Academy will work with families to ensure you know about your child's successes and how to support your child's learning.

We will ensure that all our students are equipped with the lifelong skills needed to develop into confident and caring individuals, able to lead safe, healthy and fulfilling lives. They will have the self-belief that will enable them to become successful students who have a passion for learning, make excellent progress and are in control of their own learning decisions.

Students will be encouraged to participate in a range of activities during and outside the school day. These will include involvement in local environmental improvement projects, fundraising for good causes and sports coaching.

*'There is no limit to what our students will achieve!'*



*'A modern learning environment - fit for the 21st century'*



## Our new Academy building

£28m is being invested in our flagship Academy building, with the first phase ready for students to move into in September 2010, and all buildings are due to be completed by September 2011. The new Academy will have the resources to educate 1,150 students aged 11-19, including a Sixth Form.

The building has been designed by award-winning architects Feilden Clegg Bradley and will be built by Crawley-based construction company Kier. Energy-efficiency and eco-friendliness play a key role in the design so that the building is a sustainable asset for students and the community.

### Facilities will include:

- An Entrepreneurship Centre at the heart of the Academy which will support student and community learning in the main specialism
- A six-court sports hall with spectator viewing areas, plus new outdoor sports facilities to support the Academy's second specialism
- Extensive and flexible Performing Arts spaces
- Leading edge ICT resources
- A dedicated Sixth Form area
- A large and flexible Learning Resource Centre
- Vocational areas for hairdressing, catering and other work experience activities
- A large assembly hall which can be extended into the dining area to provide sufficient space to accommodate all students at the Academy
- Recreation space for students during break times
- Accommodation of the Swan Centre, a city-wide resource for ASD/Speech and Language support
- Well organised and effective Learning Support and Behavioural Support facilities
- Ecological ponds, a sensory garden and student allotment areas

## Our specialisms

The joint specialisms of Entrepreneurship and Sport will mean that all students have a wide variety of ways to develop their skills and interests. They will also help raise standards and foster a culture of achievement across the Academy.

### Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurship will influence the whole curriculum, encouraging students to be confident, creative, passionate and determined. By encouraging our students to take risks, accept failures and adopt different approaches we will help prepare them for a rapidly changing world. The Academy's students will be committed, successful learners, who are proud, creative and self-confident, showing respect for themselves, the community and others.

Social enterprise will be an important part of the curriculum. Through social entrepreneurship, students will find out what it means to be part of a community and will be encouraged

to participate in community-based activities with the aim of developing a sense of pride in their city, environment and community.

Work-based learning programmes in relation to Business, Sport, Science and Technology will provide great experiences for students and give them insights into different kinds of career opportunities or further education and training.

The Academy aims to be a centre of vocational excellence in Entrepreneurship and subjects such as Business Studies, Technology, ICT and Mathematics will all play a key part in this.



### Sport

The Sports specialism will require all students to take an accredited course in Sports and to have achieved a Sports Leadership Award or Progression Award in Sport and Leisure by Year 11.

They will also take part in residential outdoor education activities to further develop skills such as leadership, problem solving and teamwork.

The Academy will become a national centre of excellence for Inclusive Sport, ensuring its facilities and activities are accessible to all members of the Academy and local community. There will be partnerships with Brighton and Hove Council's Sports Development Team and other sports organisations.

It will involve more students in sporting activities by complementing the existing amenities at both Universities, Brighton and Hove Albion Football Club, Sussex County Cricket Club and local health centres, promoting newer sports such as boarding, beach and nautical sports.

The Sports specialism will also encourage students to develop the skills and understanding to encourage healthy, active life styles.

### The Academy's Entrepreneurship Centre

will be an innovative place for students and for local businesses. Small, local businesses and start-ups will be encouraged to locate themselves at the Centre where they will run their own businesses as well as using some of their time to help our students with specific activities that link to the specialism.



*'The Centre will help students to see the relevance of what they learn now to their future lives.'*



## Learning and teaching

The Academy will provide a broad, balanced, innovative and motivating curriculum, individually tailored to the needs of each individual.

We will use their first year to fully gauge each student's learning needs. Helping them learn to learn and develop essential life skills is one of our key goals for the new Academy. This will be a particular focus of our Year 7 course which will continue in Year 8. Learning will be organised around particular routes which acknowledge individual abilities while stretching the most talented and supporting those who need additional help.

Each student will have access to a learning mentor who will guide them through their learning pathways and be the main link between home, the Academy and the wider community. They will regularly review the students' Individual Learning Plan with their parents/carers, the student and any other key people involved in the students' learning journey. Students will be supported to develop the skills to enable them to articulate how best they learn, in order for them to contribute to the review process and be involved in their own learning decisions.

In Year 9 some students will start GCSE and other courses leading to recognised qualifications. Students will enter for qualifications as soon as they are ready, with some completing GCSEs or other qualifications a year early.

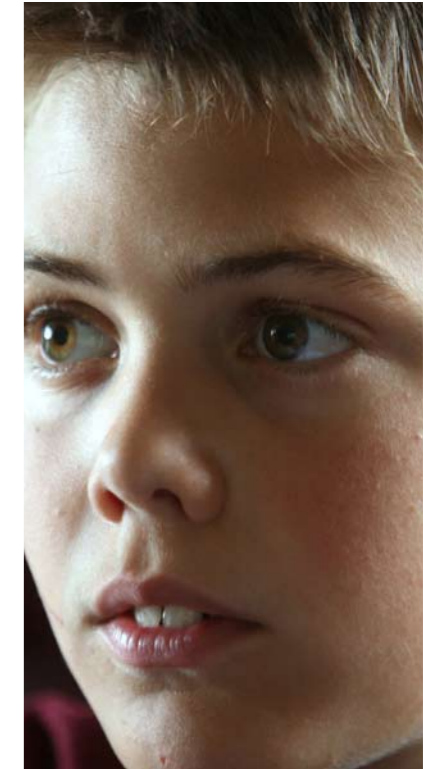
Following the National Curriculum, students will be provided with experiences that will nurture the development of the whole person, their spiritual and moral health and well-being, as well as academic or vocational abilities.

**Students will be able to develop their literacy, speaking, numeracy and ICT skills through a coordinated approach across all subject areas at all Key Stages.**

As places of education, schools are expected to teach children how to consider their own personal views on spirituality without any pressure to follow any one religion or join any particular faith. We will encourage students to behave with a strong sense of right and wrong, to care for those in need and to display an awareness of self-discipline.

*'Teaching that fires the imagination and brings learning to life'*

*'Students will be inspired by an exciting and challenging curriculum'*



*'Students will be supported to progress at their own rate and there will be a variety of pathways to cater for groups of students such as the Gifted and Talented'*

### Student support and pastoral care

The Academy will promote:

- positive relationships including self respect and respect for others
- the self esteem of students so they are confident and capable learners
- respect for the richness and diversity of all cultures and faiths.

The Academy will have a House system.

Houses will provide a sociable environment in which students work together to achieve a common goal and each student will be encouraged to enjoy the competition, camaraderie and variety of activities involved.

We will operate tutor groups, which will include students of different ages meeting daily with their personal tutor. This will foster good relationships across the Year groups.

### Special Educational Needs and Inclusion

The Academy will have dedicated support for students with Special Educational Needs with a particular emphasis on speech and language development through the Swan Centre.

Students will be able to access all learning, extended learning and enrichment opportunities regardless of any learning disability or cultural barriers. The Academy will expect all teachers to provide teaching that is planned to meet the diverse learning, social and cultural needs of their students, overcome potential barriers to learning and stretch and nurture the talents and gifts of all students.

The Academy aims to be fully inclusive with all students given the chance to realise their potential regardless of ethnicity, faith, gender, ability or disability. It is planned that new buildings will open in September 2011 and these will be fully DDA compliant. No student is denied admission to the Academy on account of their disabilities and /or personal restrictions be they physical or sensory.

### Standards and expectations

From the moment students start their education at the Academy, there will be consistent and rigorously enforced expectations of how they conduct themselves, learn and flourish as young citizens.

A parents' handbook will explain the Academy's policies in more detail and parents' and carers' roles in supporting their child and helping to uphold Academy policies on areas like uniform, attendance and punctuality.

*'Personal targets, regular assessment and the encouragement to help each other'*

*'Our aim to provide exceptional opportunities for our students and the community will be fulfilled through a range of partnerships'*

## Working in Partnership

### The Academy will work closely with:

- parents and carers
- Brighton and Hove City Council
- other educational partners
- Brighton University and the University of Sussex
- City College
- Brighton and Hove Albion FC
- Sussex County Cricket Club
- theatrical and performing artists
- local business partners
- local employers
- local faith and community groups.

Our aim is to ensure that the Academy is at the heart of the community. We will work closely with our partner primary schools to ensure a smooth transition from Year 6 to Year 7 and students will be offered a range of activities to support this before they arrive for their first day at the Academy.

In order to encourage students to remain in education, training or work-based learning the Academy will collaborate with other local 14-19 education partners to ensure that there is a wide range of academic, specialist, vocational and work-based choices for students.



Working in Partnership with Brighton & Hove City Council



University of Brighton

city college | brighton and hove

## Sixth Form

Having a Sixth Form at Falmer Academy will mean that students can stay with us from the age of 11 right through to 19. This will allow students to build on their GCSE and vocational achievements. Students will be offered flexible and exciting opportunities utilising the skills centres and the vocational facilities of City College.

The Academy's Sixth Form will also include examination and accredited courses that complement the specialisms of Entrepreneurship and Sport.

Through our partnerships with the Universities of Brighton and Sussex, the Academy will ensure it provides pathways into higher education, with gifted and talented students able to follow an accelerated curriculum, starting foundation degree courses whilst in the Sixth Form.

There will be a common structure for all students, which will include programmes to develop personal effectiveness, specialist studies and sports leadership awards. A requirement for all post-16 students will be to engage in some form of accredited entrepreneurial activity.

## Admissions Policy

### Starting Year 7

If your child is currently in Year 6 of primary school you should apply for a place at the Academy now. Your completed preference form needs to be received by 3pm on 23 October 2009.

The Academy is offering places for up to 180 Year 7 students in September 2010.

The Falmer Academy participates fully in the Brighton and Hove schools admission process. To find out more about the admissions policy and process for applying you should contact the Schools Admissions Team at Brighton & Hove Council.

By post at:

Schools Admissions Team  
Children & Young People's Trust  
Brighton & Hove City Council  
PO BOX 2503  
King's House  
Grand Avenue  
Hove BN3 2SU

by phone: **(01273) 293653**

or email: [Schooladmissions@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:Schooladmissions@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

or visit [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk)

and type school admissions into the search box..

## Open evening

This will be held at Falmer High School on:

**Thursday 1 October 2009  
at 7pm**

You will have the opportunity to meet the Principal and the Sponsor and find out more about the Academy and what it could mean for your child.

For more information ring the Academy Project Office on **(01273) 296766** or visit [www.proposedfalmeracademy.org](http://www.proposedfalmeracademy.org)

## Uniform

We will be consulting students and staff about a new Academy uniform, which we aim to have agreed by the summer term in order that parents have time to purchase it for the Academy year starting September 2010.

Our starting point is that there will be a uniform for Years 7 to 11, with students in Sixth Form wearing a business suit. We will keep parents fully informed as we develop the uniform proposals.

