



Sawtry Village
Academy

Academy Prospectus



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Welcome from the Headteacher



I am delighted to be the Headteacher of Sawtry Village Academy and part of the on-going project to deliver excellent schools for Sawtry, of which the community can be proud.

Sawtry Village Academy has high expectations of all its students and in return offers a high-quality education at the heart of our rural community. We will develop our students into successful, confident, responsible and employable citizens. The school is a supportive hub for its students, their families and the community.

While we are committed to providing the strongest academic experience for our students, we also excel in broader subject areas to provide our students with a balanced and well-rounded education. We consistently achieve highly in media, arts and sport on a local, regional and national stage.

The Academy is supported by the village college ethos and values of the Cambridge Meridian Academies Trust (CMAT), described by Ofsted as: 'an absolute belief that every child matters'. The core of this philosophy is:



Achievement for all



Providing a high quality learning environment



The pursuit of excellence



Extending the boundaries of learning



Valuing people

We expect students to work hard, developing resilience when the going gets tough and together we will celebrate their achievements, whatever their ability level. We know that learning is at its best when staff, students and parent work closely together, so on behalf of the staff may I say that we look forward to welcoming you to as many Academy events as possible.

This prospectus provides a useful summary of how we translate these aims into reality for each student. We hope that you will work with us in achieving these aims of knowing and valuing every student to achieve and enjoy their school experience.

Simon Parsons

The Academy Identity

The Academy brand was chosen and created by our students and wider community when we joined CMAT.

The logo is inspired by organic shapes found in nature to reflect our rural setting. The overall triangular shape evokes an oak tree.

The growing shapes that sit within the larger shapes symbolise personal development.

The central element where the three main parts are tied together represent unity with parents, students and staff working together to create a strong partnership.

Uniform

All of the uniform to be worn by students in Years 7 to 11 is available to be purchased from PMG online retailer or Chroma Sports and Trophies in Peterborough. Details can be found on our website.

Years 7-11

Navy Jumper - Dark blue, with Academy logo and house denotation

Polo Shirt - Light blue with Academy logo and house denotation

Skirt - Plain, black, knee length or below with Academy logo. Henley style only

Trousers - Plain black, tailored style, full length with Academy logo (no leggings, combat or jean style)

Tights/Socks - Black, white, or grey

Shoes - Black – NB trainers, boots, sandals, open toed or platform shoes and other unsuitable footwear must not be worn. Canvas shoes are not permitted

Years 12-13

Black Zip Top - With Academy logo

Shirt/Blouse - Plain white collared

Trousers - Smart plain black tailored, full length

Skirts - Tailored (knee length or below)

Shoes - As detailed above



A photograph of several students in a science laboratory. In the foreground, two female students are focused on looking through microscopes. They are wearing school uniforms. The background shows other students and a blurred classroom environment. The lighting is bright, and the overall atmosphere is one of academic pursuit.

The Pursuit of Excellence

CMAT | Cambridge Meridian
Academies Trust

The Academy Trust

Sawtry Village Academy joined the CMAT family in April 2015. The Trust was formed with a simple and clear vision: 'to ensure high quality education at the heart of the community.' It also enabled Swavesey Village College – a school considered to be 'outstanding in every respect' by Ofsted - to sponsor other academies, and help spread good education practice throughout the local area. with parents, students and staff working together to create a strong partnership.



The Trust truly values the success of every child and places the sharing of excellent education practice at its core. It is committed to improving the quality of education and life in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, and their immediate surroundings. The Trust is dedicated to maintaining its core principles and focus as it grows.



Valuing People



A high quality learning environment



Achievement for all



The pursuit of excellence



Extending the boundaries of learning

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Appreciating the incredible trust placed with us in educating young people and serving our community ▶ Valuing the diversity and qualities of our staff and students | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Ensuring that all students and staff feel known, appreciated and supported ▶ Committing whole-heartedly to collaboration within, between and beyond our academies |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Providing high quality buildings, engaging classrooms and excellent sporting facilities ▶ Delivering innovative learning resources and materials | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Ensuring a well-disciplined and caring environment ▶ Exploiting cutting edge technologies to expand the opportunities for students, staff and our community to benefit from learning in a digital age |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Ensuring that every student achieves their maximum potential ▶ Maintaining a relentless sense of optimism | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Removing barriers to learning ▶ Providing a whole education: academic excellence co-existing with an exceptional commitment to activity beyond |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ By expecting this of every person, every day ▶ Continually striving for the creation of a true meritocracy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Promoting and celebrating elite performance inside school and in the wider world ▶ Rejecting outright any sense of complacency |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Providing positive memorable experiences inside and outside of the classroom ▶ Providing a diversity of experience to all | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Opening up the world to all students ▶ Securing the very best future educational and vocational experiences for our students |

For more information about CMAT, visit our website: www.cmatrust.co.uk

Valuing People

Sawtry Village Academy embeds CMAT's core values at the heart of everything we do. These initiatives have been developed and proved to be successful at other schools across the Trust.

House System

Sawtry Village Academy has four main school Houses and one 6th form House:



Norman

"Strive,
care,
create."



Archers

"Withstand,
venture,
persist."



Ermine

"Dream,
believe,
achieve."



Saints

"Inspire,
motivate,
fulfil."



Oak

"Mature,
persist,
excel."

The Houses provide crucial support and guidance, and the needs of every student are acknowledged and understood by their tutor and senior tutor. The system enables individual progress to be monitored much more closely and the House is the key focus of the relationship between the Academy and families, with siblings joining the same House.

The House offices are a great base for students and parents to find the support and assistance they may need. Each house has a dedicated member of the leadership team, a senior tutor and a student support advisor.

Vertical Tutoring

The mixed aged tutor group system is known as Vertical Tutoring. Each tutor group will have a mixture of students from Years 7-11. The sixth form has a specialist team.

The Vertical Tutoring system has many benefits, fostering a family spirit where older students offer guidance and provide support to younger students. It also ensures students have a sense of the whole school picture as the younger students see the older ones preparing for work experience, subject choices and important examinations.

The tutors will follow the students from their first few days to their last at the Academy. This allows them to easily build great relationships with students and their families and ensure they receive the support they need. Each tutor will make regular contact with a child's family in the year to discuss progress and address any concerns.

An encouraging House ethos for students to strive in is developed and strengthened by healthy competition. Students will have the opportunity to compete alongside their House peers in a variety of activities in order to claim victory and win the prestigious House Award.

Academy Rewards

Sawtry Village Academy takes great pride in celebrating and sharing the achievements of its students and staff. We have a comprehensive protocol of rewarding students in lessons through a credit system which recognises hard work, persistence and participation in learning. These credits can be achieved at bronze, silver, gold and diamond level.

Students can be presented with "I've Been Great Rewards" by any member of staff in the Academy. These rewards are presented to students who go above and beyond expectations. For example, this could be to recognise a student supporting another student without being asked. Quite simply we try, wherever possible, to celebrate positive action and behaviours every day.



Achievement for all



Curriculum Structure: Key Stage 3 (KS3)

Students in Years 7 and 8 (Key Stage 3) will study the following subjects:

- ▶ English
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Physical Education
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Creative Arts (Art, Music)
- ▶ Humanities (Geography, History)
- ▶ Modern Foreign Languages (French or Spanish)
- ▶ Technology (covering aspects such as Food, Graphics, Resistant Materials and Textiles)
- ▶ Core Studies covers Religious Education, Citizenship, Personal Development, Careers Information, Advice and Guidance

Curriculum Structure: Key Stage 4 (KS4)

All students in KS4 work towards external examinations in all subjects with the exception of Physical Education.

Students in Years 9, 10 and 11 have some degree of choice but all students will study:

- ▶ English
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Physical Education
- ▶ Humanities (History or Geography)
- ▶ Core studies which includes Religious Education, Personal Development, Careers, Information, Advice and Guidance

There will be a guided choice based on current government and Ofsted recommendations and sound careers and progression advice. This will include consideration of the significance of an English Baccalaureate route and imposition for some students.

Students can choose between a range of other subject areas:

- ▶ Art
- ▶ Business Studies
- ▶ Computer Science
- ▶ Child Development
- ▶ Information Technology
- ▶ Food Preparation and Nutrition
- ▶ French
- ▶ Graphics
- ▶ Media Studies
- ▶ Music
- ▶ Physical Education
- ▶ Resistant Materials
- ▶ Sociology
- ▶ Spanish
- ▶ Textiles

Curriculum Structure: Key Stage 5 (KS5)

We offer a wide range of traditional, highly regarded, creative and academic A Level courses. Students will normally follow a programme of study consisting of four or three A Levels. Alongside this the Academy offers a range of Applied General qualifications. The subjects currently offered are:

- ▶ Art
- ▶ Textiles
- ▶ Biology
- ▶ Business Studies
- ▶ Chemistry
- ▶ Diploma in Financial Studies
- ▶ English Literature
- ▶ Film Studies
- ▶ French
- ▶ Geography
- ▶ Government & Politics
- ▶ BTEC National Health and Social Care
- ▶ History
- ▶ BTEC National Information Technology
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Physical Education
- ▶ Physics
- ▶ Product Design
- ▶ Psychology
- ▶ BTEC National Applied Science
- ▶ Sociology
- ▶ Spanish



A high quality learning environment

Growing our students for now and the future – Grit and Zest in Learning

At Sawtry Village Academy every student is known, valued and supported to achieve not only for now but also for the future. We believe in growing the minds of our young people and consider carefully what we value in order to develop this way of thinking in our students. In our classrooms, we believe that two things can make a real difference to students, not only on a daily basis but also in future life: they are Grit and Zest.

By nurturing passion, perseverance and stamina we encourage students to never give in when things are tough or hard. We want students to seek out challenges and to stick with them. By developing grit, the next generation will be able to take on the hurdles and obstacles that life brings. Ultimately, a life without challenge is a life of unknown potential. At Sawtry, we value students who don't give up even when failure has caused a setback.

Learning is a journey that continues for life. To be successful on this venture, we encourage our students to be eager to explore new things, to take responsibility, to show enthusiasm and to actively participate in every lesson. We call this a zest for learning. We work relentlessly to inspire and open the minds of all those that attend Sawtry Village Academy.



House System

Every Member of our community is known, valued and supported to achieve in all areas at the highest level to become successful and confident and responsible for the pursuit of lifelong learning.



Excellence
We nurture

An ethos of great work everyday to achieve the extra-ordinary
A drive for maximum progress in every lesson
An ever growing knowledge of our subjects and pedagogy
Collaboration as we research and share our expertise



Belonging
In our community

Everyone is known as an individual
We are proud of and celebrate the achievements of all
We teach that with rights come responsibilities
We embrace our differences



Dialogue
We insist that

All have the opportunity to grow as confident and articulate speakers
All feedback is frequent, focused, clear and constructive
Learning intentions and success criteria are clear and understood by all
Feedback is used to improve performance



Expectations
We insist on

Kindness at all time
Being ready to learn and teach
Rules being followed
Being a great role model for others



Grit
We nurture

The development of grit some thrive in the face of challenge
Our minds by challenging our thinking everyday
Growth based on individual need
An ethos that continually pushes excellence



Zest
We encourage

A commitment to lifelong, independent learning
All to become more curious every day
All to make every moment count
Learning beyond the classroom

Session 6

Sawtry Village Academy offers a wide variety of extra-curricular opportunities through a timetabled programme over the year. These encompass activities such as sports, film making, music and additional subject support.

The Academy day extends to 4.00pm for those students who wish to stay for after-school activities or additional curriculum assistance – these sessions are called Session 6. The Academy also provides transport to the local villages to allow students to get home from these activities at a minimal cost.

Teachers will recommend sessions that will be useful if a student needs additional support or clarification. Students can also drop into extra-curricular sessions themselves if they are feeling overwhelmed or need assistance.

House System

We believe in an all-inclusive education where every student not only develops academic skills, but self-confidence, life-skills, and leadership experiences.

In addition to the Pledge programme, there is a wide-range of other whole Academy activities, including:

- ▶ Inter-House competitions
- ▶ Charity events
- ▶ Extended curriculum days
- ▶ Educational visits and experiences

There are student leadership opportunities to be found throughout all aspects of Academy life – from the informal leadership that is inherent in the mixed age tutor groups, through to the Academy House Captains, and local and national representative groups.



Extending the boundaries of learning



Participation



Leadership



Excellence



Diversity



Giving



Environmental



Service

Did you know?

- *Completing Pledges will also contribute to House points*

Academy Pledges

We have an uncompromising commitment to ensure that every child achieves their academic potential at Sawtry Village Academy. Our curriculum has been carefully designed to secure the best possible outcomes for our students. We also have systems in place for students that need extra support and guidance to achieve.

In order to support our challenging curriculum, we have also developed and invested in a simple but broad set of Academy Pledges. Pledges are an awards system which offer students a range of character-building opportunities that enhance their learning and development. It is an expectation of every student to complete their Pledges during their time at the Academy.

The Pledges system aims to encourage and reward the development of many important qualities in students, such as responsibility, expectation, intuition and citizenship, all of which are crucial for giving students skills and brighter futures.





Valued member of the community

Sawtry Village Academy is a valued member of the wider community and a source of immense pride.

Drawing upon the Village College roots of the Trust, we firmly believe our role is to provide for all members of the community we serve. This means that we open the Academy's facilities to the community and support local events such as the Sawtry Carnival and Feast Supper. In addition, we offer facilities for hire and a programme of Leisure Learning classes in the evenings.

Students will be exposed to many opportunities in which they can help their in-school communities. They can take up a Head Boy or Head Girl role or join the House Captains, and in doing so will work towards their Leadership Pledge whilst supporting the "voice" of the student body.

Students may volunteer to help the wider community with consistent opportunities to fundraise for a wide range of charities supported by the Academy.

Establishing close links with younger students at nearby primary schools is important, and we regularly invite them into the Academy to take part in a range of sporting, science and cultural projects. Some of the Academy's teachers support local primary schools by providing the students with wider opportunities in areas such as languages and sport.





Sawtry Village Academy

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Part of the CMAT family

