

BE YOUR BEST



GOODWIN
ACADEMY



Welcome

from the Headteacher

Dear parents, carers and students

Welcome to Goodwin Academy. At Goodwin we are committed to transforming the life chances of our students, ensuring that all are supported and encouraged to achieve their personal best. We deliver this through the BEST Agenda - 'Be Your Best with BEST being the acronym for B = Brilliance, E = Enrichment, S = Society and T = Thinking.

We are a vibrant and engaging school where our students experience challenge in all its forms and understand what it is like to be challenged. In turn, they themselves challenge intelligently, with a spirit that is quickly realised from the moment our pupils first enter the school.

After a three-year journey, in 2022, we were thrilled to have been awarded Thinking School Accreditation by the University of Exeter, being recognised for having "a clear focus on cognitive development through a whole school approach to learning which has improved children's attitudes, improved their enjoyment, developed their independence, contributed to high quality teaching and led to better student progress:'

We are constantly striving to create the best possible learning environment for our students, and we were thrilled to receive the Bronze UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Award in 2021 and are actively working towards our Silver Award. With this award, we are joining a community of other schools in the UK who have reported that

the award has many positive impacts, including improved relationships, wellbeing and self-esteem of students that in turn has led to better attendance and improved learning.

At Goodwin, we pride ourselves on our caring and compassionate ethos, which enables our students to grow in a supportive atmosphere conducive to their development. Where students need additional support, we will look to meet their needs through our highly effective pastoral system. Due to this, we were honoured to receive the KCC Resilience and Emotional Wellbeing award for our approach in providing students with an environment that nurtures but also encourages resilience.

The school offers a thriving extra-curricular programme with many opportunities for students to grow their talents. We have a wide variety of very successful sports teams and hold regular student productions, dance shows and exhibitions.

Goodwin is part of the Thinking Schools Academy Trust, a growing family of schools across Kent, Portsmouth, Essex and Devon. As a Trust, we have high expectations for our students, set ambitious targets for learning and progress and work together to "transform life chances" for our young people. Ultimately, we aspire to develop our students, so that they become successful, well-rounded and confident individuals who are equipped with the academic and life skills necessary to become the best versions of themselves and thrive in the modern world.

I look forward to welcoming you to our amazing School.

Rachael Moon
Headteacher



Brilliance

At Goodwin Academy, you will be supported to be brilliant in everything you do.

All members of the Goodwin community work hard; the academy has an ethos of productivity across all classrooms to achieve success in every area of school life. Time in school is valued and never wasted as we demonstrate 'Brilliance' within our 5 'Waves' of learning, personal conduct and interactions with each other. We develop effective habits for learning through 'This is how we Learn' as we celebrate our ethos of 'Be Your BEST'.

Examples of Brilliant activities include:

- Commitment to academic studies
- 100% attendance and punctuality
- Representing the school
- Raising personal aspirations





Goodwin Academy



Enrichment

At Goodwin Academy, you will encounter a variety of educational opportunities outside of the classroom.

We believe in providing opportunities for our students to pursue their passions outside of the classroom. By experiencing a range of cultural events, our students will deepen their knowledge about the opportunities available to them to ensure they leave the academy as well-rounded individuals. Through our value of Enrichment our students, will broaden their horizons to 'Be Your BEST.

Examples of Enrichment activities include:

- Trips and visits
- Sporting activities and Duke of Edinburgh
- Performances and productions
- Work experience



Society

At Goodwin Academy, you will be encouraged to develop as a responsible, active and informed world citizen, demonstrating mutual respect, empathy and community spirit.

Integrity is at the heart of everything we do. We promote fairness and kindness in our community and always act with strong moral principles as honesty and respect are of paramount importance in our academy. We treat others within our academy in a polite, tolerant and compassionate manner as we all 'row together' and understand the significant role that each person has in steering a respectful culture. We are respectful to all within the academy as this is fundamental to 'Be Your BEST'.

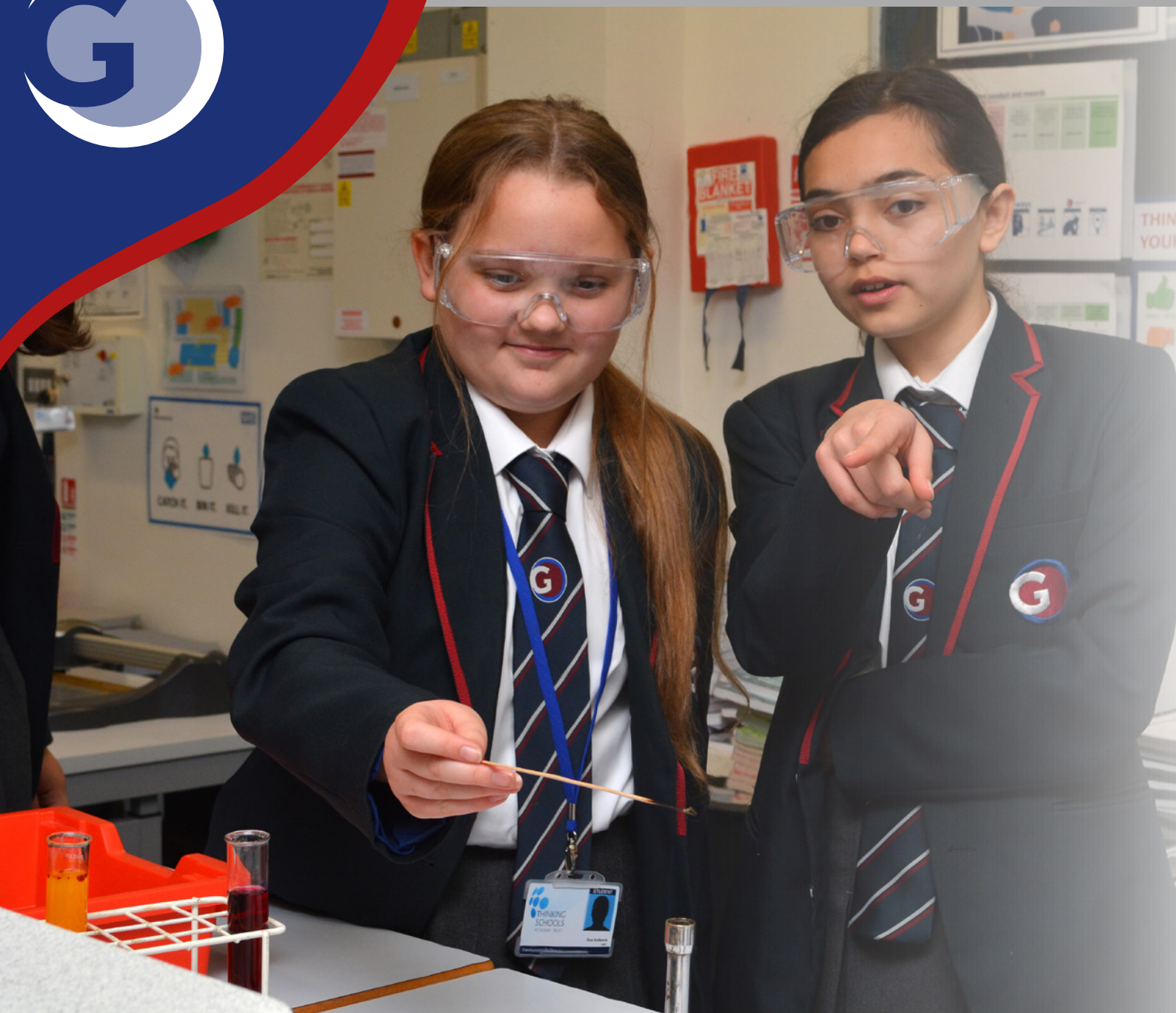
Examples of Society activities include:

- Charity events
- Student leadership
- Community outreach
- Political engagement





Goodwin Academy



Thinking

At Goodwin Academy, you will join a global community of thinkers.

Everyone within our academy has high aspirations and expectations of themselves and demonstrates an openness to feedback as we continually look to improve. We set ourselves ambitious targets and have the confidence and self-belief to strive to achieve them. We think about our thinking to develop effective habits and skills as responsible learners. Thinking tools and strategies are used to structure our thinking, monitor how we learn and demonstrate who we are. This ensures students make progress from their individual starting points to shape their success and 'Be Your BEST'.

Examples of Thinking activities include:

- Thinking Maps - to visualise thinking
- CORT Tools - to focus thinking
- De Bono's Thinking Hats - to organise thinking
- Thinking Keys - to engage and motivate thinking
- Questioning - to encourage thinking
- Goodwin Gateways - to develop thinking dispositions



A foundation of Thinking

The Thinking Schools Academy Trust is a family of schools that work together to “transform the life chances” of all our children and young people. We share a common mission to nurture successful young people who are confident and can think and act independently.

As part of the Thinking Schools Academy Trust, Goodwin Academy takes pride in the unique approach we take to education: we provide our students with the skills and tools they need to think in a variety of ways and become lifelong learners. We believe that the best way to transform the life chances of our young people and help them achieve their aspirations is by shaping their minds, attitudes and habits through a framework of cognitive education that enables them to become the masters of their own destiny.

Our students are equipped with a bank of Thinking Tools designed to prepare them for a range of scenarios, dilemmas and circumstances that they may face in life as part of modern society. The use of these Tools in our curriculum is supported by scientific and metacognitive research, and students are encouraged to apply their tools independently and use them to unlock new ideas.

Our Thinking Tools include Thinking Maps, De Bono’s Thinking Hats and Art Costa’s Habits of Mind. These tools are used consistently across all

areas of our curriculum and support our students tremendously in their learning and personal growth.

The concept of ‘Being your Best Self’ is also at the heart of our approach to learning at Goodwin Academy as part of our Thinking School ethos. Children are encouraged to strive to be and achieve their best, and are given multiple opportunities to reflect on their learning and work on their personal development.

In 2022, Goodwin Academy was accredited as a Thinking School by the University of Exeter’s School of Education, which leads the way on Metacognition, Thinking Skills and Creativity and provides a framework for schools to follow to become recognised Thinking Schools.

In a glowing report on our school, the University commented that: “There is no doubt that Goodwin Academy has made a full commitment to developing and embedding cognitive education throughout the school. From the initial introduction of cognitive tools and practices, the school has expanded their repertoire of cognitive pedagogy and demonstrate a wide range of practice geared towards the development of thinking.”



THINKING MAPS

Bubble Map



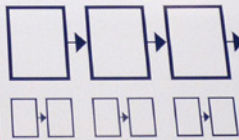
For Describing

Double Bubble Map



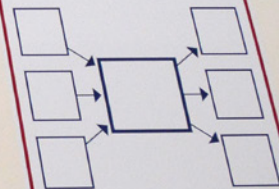
For Comparing

Flow Map



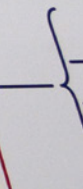
For Sequencing

Multi Flow Map



For Cause & Effect

Brace Map



W



Persisting



Striving for Accuracy



Thinking and Communicating
with Clarity and Precision



Applying Past Knowledge
to New Situations



Thinking Interdependently



Thinking about Your Thinking



Creating, Imagining and
Innovating



Listening with Understanding
and Empathy



Goodwin Gateways

The Goodwin Gateways aim to instil positive habits of mind to enable students to become independent and creative learners, providing them with transferable tools that can support them on the journey to achieving their goals. Each of the Gateways has been chosen specifically to fit the needs of Goodwin Academy students, so that they become confident, well-rounded and contented individuals.

Persistence is a hard habit to develop but at Goodwin the teaching and support mechanisms allow students to grow in confidence. Therefore, when faced with a challenge or experience with a sense of falling short, young people must be able to pick themselves up and carry on the journey to success.

Striving for Accuracy allows our students to gain an understanding of the importance of doing a job well, when entering a world full of competition our young people need to stand out by hitting the mark.

Listening with understanding and empathy is probably one of the most important habits of mind, the world is shrinking and our young people will encounter others who are not from the same background or who hold the same values as them.

One mind can conceive amazing inventions, but just think what many minds working together can innovate, this is what thinking interdependently is about. Sometimes sharing thoughts and ideas can be daunting but as with any walk of life team

work enables individual success as well as team achievement.

Those who **communicate** well and who can convey their thoughts clearly can achieve beyond their capability. We take it for granted that people know how to communicate or to comprehend what is being said, this is not always the case and we need to allow our students to be confident communicators in whatever situation they may find themselves.

Transferable knowledge allows us to use what we already know to help us learn something new. At Goodwin Academy, we aim to lay foundations of learning across subjects upon which students can build strong knowledge bases.

Are we always truly clear about our thought processes and about the ideas that form our opinions? We will understand others better and therefore empathise more successfully if we understand what shapes us and **thinking about our thinking** is key.

Our children will leave school and enter into jobs that do not currently exist. Therefore, it is important that they are encouraged to **create, imagine, innovate** and stretch traditional ideas so that they are the engineers, inventors and employers of the future.

Curriculum

At Goodwin Academy our vision for the curriculum is based around 'Be Your Best so that all students achieve the highest standards of which they are capable.

Through our curriculum, we aim to deliver the following ambitious outcomes:

Brilliance

Our curriculum drives students to aspire to brilliance in all areas by promoting opportunities for academic excellence through a broad and balanced learning experience that stimulates students to be imaginative, creative and reflective in their learning.

Enrichment

Our curriculum motivates students to become confident and successful individuals who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives regardless of their individual circumstances. The curriculum is designed to enable students to experience the wider world around them, meaning students build the cultural capital needed to successfully engage with a wide variety of social contexts. These opportunities for cultural development are embedded in subjects, in enrichment activities and through our 'Aspirations' curriculum.

Society

Our curriculum emphasises students' roles as responsible citizens who can make a positive contribution to society, upholding the fundamental British values of democracy and individual liberty. Our curriculum provides our students with the opportunities to experience a diverse range of cultures equipping them for their roles as both local and global citizens.

Thinking

Our curriculum sequencing ensures students develop long term knowledge, skills and understanding which can be effectively transferred to new opportunities. We develop lifelong habits to be successful within the Academy and beyond. The use of Thinking Tools is embedded into our curriculum to support students to develop metacognitive approaches, creating awareness of both their own strengths and of areas they would like to develop to be ready for the next step in their life journey.



The people who are crazy enough
to think they can change the
world are the ones who do

Steve Jobs



Student wellbeing and support

At Goodwin Academy, student wellbeing is at the core of what we do, ensuring that our students feel supported every step of the way. In 2022, this was recognised by us receiving the Kent School Award for Resilience and Emotional Wellbeing.

Pastoral support starts with the tutor, as this is a daily point of contact and an opportunity for a strong relationship to be established. The aim is that the tutor team follows the year group throughout their time at the Academy, ensuring that both Head of Year and Tutor know every student personally.

In addition, our Wellbeing Centre, known as the 'lighthouse', provides any student with

extra support alongside delivering structured interventions. The Wellbeing Team is run by our Mental Health Lead who works in conjunction with the Safeguarding Lead, Emotional Literacy support Assistants (ELSA), and Heads of Year to provide an extra layer of pastoral support. Interventions are led by ELSAs and Mental Health Lead, all of whom are trained to provide support across a range of needs.

By building strong, lasting relationships with both students and parents, we ensure that students always have someone they can turn to for support. We believe this promotes engagement, trust, confidence and self-belief, in turn allowing our students to become their best.





Goodwin Academy

Specialist based provision

The Helen Keller Centre provides support in individual, small group and whole class settings, for our students with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN), enabling them to access the curriculum; to achieve their academic goals; to enjoy being part of a community and to engage fully with all that Goodwin Academy has to offer.

Students supported by the Helen Keller Centre have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) and have been diagnosed either with Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) or with SLCN co-occurring with another condition, e.g. high functioning Autism Spectrum Disorder or hearing impairment.

For more information about our work with Special Educational Needs, please scan the QR code here. Alternatively, visit our website at:

www.goodwinacademy.org.uk/curriculum/sen/







University of
Kent



Sixth Form

Goodwin Academy Sixth Form is a dynamic and innovative place to learn that will enable young people to be their BEST and achieve during their time here. We believe that our students studying in the Sixth Form at Goodwin Academy receive high-quality education and care in a safe, inclusive environment and this allows them to reach their full potential.

We have high aspirations for what our students can achieve, and our dedicated staff will support them every step of the way. Students benefit from teachers who are specialists in their subject area, provide varied teaching resources with personalised support and the opportunity to participate in a wide range of enrichment and extra-curricular opportunities. Our ambitious, student-centred Sixth Form provides pathways and extensive support to enable our students to reach their chosen destinations.

Our curriculum offers a broad range of A Level and BTEC qualifications tailored to suit the needs of our learners and our Sixth form team work closely with all students to ensure that they are enrolled on the right courses to maximise their potential. Alongside the academic curriculum, students in the Sixth Form follow a structured PSHE curriculum designed to promote social, moral, spiritual and cultural development. In addition, students will study various topics designed to prepare them for life outside of school.



Artsmark

As part of Goodwin Academy's mission to "transform life chances": we believe we have a responsibility to build our young people's cultural capital as much as possible: this means offering opportunities for our students to explore culture in its various forms, immerse themselves in the Arts and learn about the world beyond their personal location and circumstances. We believe that in expanding our students' cultural knowledge and encouraging them to engage in new experiences, we can support their personal growth and extend their knowledge beyond the taught curriculum.

Every student at Goodwin has a Cultural Passport which encourages them to record and reflect on their cultural experiences. The Passport offers a range of activities and ideas for broadening students' horizons and developing their skills, from managing a budget and learning a survival skill to visiting an art gallery and trying foods from different countries. Our school offers as many opportunities as possible to equip our young people with a diverse set of experiences, skills and knowledge.

In order to offer a full and enriching experience which builds cultural capital, Goodwin Academy has committed to our Artsmark journey, ensuring the cultural and creative education we provide is broad, diverse and engaging. In 2019, our school achieved its Silver Artsmark Award, recognising the success of our mission to incorporate creativity and cultural education across our curriculum and school ethos.

Arts Council England praised the opportunities available to all Goodwin Academy students to engage in the arts and cultural experiences, provided both through the curriculum and a range of clubs and activities "that go beyond formal teaching":

We are currently working towards our next Artsmark Award, making us one of a small number of schools in the UK to hold this award.







Facilities

As a result of £25 million investment, Goodwin Academy has benefitted from a new three storey building and four court Sports Hall, built by Kier Group Plc. Based on Hamilton Road, the Academy building can accommodate up to 1300 students.

The multi-functional building consists of a large Dining Hall and Theatre, plus ICT, Technology, Performing Arts and Modern Foreign Language classrooms on the Ground Floor.

On the First Floor, the English, Humanities and Art departments are located, along with some additional ICT classrooms. Maths and Science are based on the Second Floor alongside the Sixth Form Study Centre, and Common Room. In addition to the Sports Hall, there is a Fitness Studio, Dance Studio and 3G Astro turf Pitch.

Thinking Lettings, a service of the Thinking Schools Academy Trust, hire out a number of our facilities to the general public. All profits made through these bookings are recycled back into the Trust to fund the upkeep of our facilities and further support our ethos of transforming life chances of our children.

Interested in hiring one of our facilities?
Visit thinking-lettings.com for more information.



THINKING
lettings



BE YOUR BEST



Goodwin Academy
Hamilton Road
Deal
Kent
CT14 9BD

 0333 360 2130

 www.goodwinacademy.org.uk


THINKING
SCHOOLS
ACADEMY TRUST