

LeAF Studio

PERFORMING ARTS | SPORT | ACADEMICS



MAIN SCHOOL
13-16 PROSPECTUS
PERFORM TO YOUR POTENTIAL



Overall effectiveness

Good

Effectiveness of leadership and management

Good

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment

Good

Personal development, behaviour and welfare

Good

Outcomes for pupils 16 to 19 study programmes

Good

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Good


Ofsted
Good
Provider



"The best decision
we ever made!"

Parent

"Any doubts as to whether we made
the right decision soon evaporated!

The staff are so vibrant and
passionate about their jobs that it
encourages students to do their
best."

Parent

"When your child gets up
every morning and is
excited about going to
school, that says it all!"

Parent

"LeAF Studio really is like
a breath of fresh air!"

Parent

"Pupils join the school in order to pursue their
talents in the performing arts or sporting
arenas. Leaders have created an environment
that supports their ambition and dovetails it
well with an academic curriculum."

Ofsted



WELCOME

LeAF Studio opened in September 2012 and we moved into our modern and versatile building in September 2013. In 2017, LeAF Studio joined and formed part of the Ambitions Academies Trust.

At LeAF Studio, our aim is for every learner to be able to move seamlessly from LeAF Studio into employment, professional performance or university, fully equipped with the necessary **skills, knowledge** and **understanding** to purposefully engage in all of the challenges and opportunities they will experience.

As Principal, I am very proud to lead LeAF Studio. We provide a **bespoke** education for 13–19 year olds, combining a core academic curriculum with **high quality** vocational studies in:

Performing Arts – including dance, drama, musical theatre, music and music technology.

Sport – including football, golf, boxing and supporting other individual sports through strength and conditioning.



LeAF Studio actively promotes and develops **individual excellence** and **outstanding collaboration** for all its students across the whole curriculum.

Our teachers and industry specialist coaches support the development needs of each **individual student** ensuring that **personal resilience** and **motivation** are at the forefront.

We share parents' wishes that students leave LeAF Studio with **strong academic achievement** alongside their chosen specialism to give each student every opportunity to **succeed** in their future.

We are **passionate** about the **unique educational experience** we offer and our staff are on hand and available to support you in making an informed decision as to whether LeAF Studio is the right school for your child's future aspirations.

My team and I look forward to welcoming you to LeAF Studio, where you will see that through high expectations our students really do **'Perform to their Potential'** and become high achievers, both academically and in their specialisms.

Nadine Lapskas | **Principal**



CURRICULUM

Our curriculum is critical to the progression of our students. It consists of high-quality courses in a student's chosen specialism, underpinned by a core curriculum of English, Maths and Science.

We know that the vast majority of our students will need strong academic grades alongside their specialism qualifications as they progress through their careers, so academics are absolutely critical for all of our students.

We value reading as an empowering skill for our students to not only achieve more highly across all areas of the curriculum, but also to develop a lifelong love of all types of literature which enriches all aspects of their learning journey throughout life.

Our students are encouraged to develop skills of empathy and cultural values by promoting a wider world view through reading, personal development and our specialisms therefore fostering an understanding of different perspectives.

Students spend 15 hours within the core academic subjects and 10 hours per week within their specialism.

Our expectations of academic lessons are the same as at any mainstream school – we expect all our students to be as committed to these as they are to their specialisms and we have a continued focus on delivering quality first teaching and learning.

Students in Year 9, 10 and 11 receive up to 5 hours a week of technical training in their specialisms.

For students who enroll onto our Performing Arts programme this can include Acting, Dance, Musical Theatre, Singing and Strength & Conditioning. In addition to the curriculum, students have access to chargeable peripatetic lessons and private tuition with our coaches.

For students who enroll onto our Sports programme this can include Technical Sports Training, Strength & Conditioning, Nutritional Guidance, Sports Psychology and Physical Testing and Screenings.

In addition to the above both Performing Arts and Sport students are provided with an extensive range of extra-curricular opportunities to develop the overall student experience. Students also regularly attend events and trips to represent the school.



"Leaders have ensured that the curriculum is designed to meet the needs of pupils. The balance of specialist and academic teaching is appropriate. It gives pupils a rounded education while providing time for them to focus on their passion for the performing arts or sport."

Ofsted



"The quality of individual support and care for pupils is a strength of the school. Staff know their pupils as individuals and are quick to step in when they need additional support."

Ofsted



"Pupils are very proud of their school, and a significant number travel long distances from home to attend. Their commitment to the additional hours of training, coaching and rehearsal is high."

Ofsted

SPORT

Our Sport programme offers an exciting opportunity for athletes aged 13 to 19. We are a unique institution that offers talented young athletes the chance to develop their sporting careers alongside their academic studies in order to excel at a competitive or professional level.

We welcome high performance athletes from any sporting discipline and aim to deliver a true legacy for sport. Our athletes have access to education, sport and a truly professional support service.

Our athletes are at the very heart of our programme.

If you are performing and competing at a high level and are ready to commit to a future career of full time training, then our Sports programme will increase your chances of success.

The core purpose of the Sport programme is to make the pathway towards High Performance more accessible for young athletes. For too long, talented junior athletes have had to sacrifice their education in order to succeed in their chosen sporting field. The pressure of managing the demands of an elite training regime and meeting academic deadlines have resulted in lost potential, in one or even both disciplines.

Our teachers and coaches have been chosen for their high level of experience and expertise within sport, enabling them to give relevant and specific guidance to young athletes on their dual-career journey. Our approach to success is to create a professional culture in both educational and sporting pathways by providing the most appropriate support network around the athlete whilst at LeAF Studio.



PERFORMING ARTS

Our Performing Arts programme combines the best of focused, vocational learning with excellent academic achievement to equip students with the diverse range of skills required in these highly competitive industries.

We provide a strong, all round grounding in the arts.

Students on our Performing Arts programme will experience a broad and varied education; the perfect foundation from which further studies or a career in the Performing Arts can grow.

Students who study and train with us will benefit from studying all aspects of Performing Arts in a vocationally relevant and professional environment. They will develop work related skills alongside refining and furthering their ability in other subject areas.

Performing Arts at LeAF Studio is the perfect place for any aspiring performing artist – combining professional teaching and coaching with a range of first class performance opportunities. LeAF Studio offers excellent and unrivalled industry links, all alongside a rigorous and successful academic curriculum.

From full-scale variety showcases, Move It and Can You Dance to intimate acting, vocal and music events, we offer a plethora of performance opportunities locally and further afield for our students, enabling them to develop as triple-threat performers.

"The quality of teaching in the performing arts and sport is extremely strong. Teachers have a deep knowledge of their subjects and are highly skilled. As a result of the quality of their teaching, pupils are inspired to learn and reach very high standards."

Ofsted





LEAF STUDIO COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

Every LeAF Studio student has the opportunity to participate in a wide range of trips and activities both in this country and abroad; all designed to help support their specialism training and academic development. At the heart of this are our once in a lifetime sports tours and performing arts residencies across Europe and the world. Previous visits have included Hollywood, New York, Barcelona and Lisbon.

Cross-curricular links allow academic subjects to provide opportunities to attend field trips, screenings, performances and workshops, which provide our students with the very best experiences to enrich their learning.

All LeAF Studio students partake in an annual Specialism Week which provides our students with the opportunity to thrive and further develop their specialism skillsets.

Further to this is our focus on Personal Development whereby we provide even more opportunities for students to take on new challenges and experiences and form strong relationships across the whole school – regardless of specialism.

Performing Arts provides opportunities such as performing at Move It, CYD, intimate in-house showcases, all culminating in their annual summer production which held at Lighthouse Theatre every July.

Our Sports Specialism provides opportunities for students to visit, train and compete abroad, explore dual-career provisions at leading sporting universities, have access to sporting event management, along with hosting and delivering a variety of events for the local community onsite.

LeAF Studio students are regularly visited by external professionals who endorse our students' education. Our unrivalled provision enables students to experience a range of events and competitions that equip them for their future professional pathways.





"Leaders have built a school with a unique identity that serves the needs of its pupils well. Pupils are proud of their school and of their achievements."

Ofsted



"What's so exciting about LeAF Studio is that the day is so varied, combining everyday studies whilst engaging students in their passion."

Paul Holman | Director of Outcomes | Ambitions Academies Trust

"Students are well prepared for the next stages of their education or employment by providing high-quality independent careers advice and guidance."

Ofsted

SUPPORT & GUIDANCE

TUTOR AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Students will meet with their form tutor twice a day, who is there to support students in their day to day life at LeAF Studio. Personal Development and PHSE forms part of the tutor programme providing opportunities to explore a range of topics including financial management, interview technique and communication with employers, effective social media use, and managing adversity using performance psychology strategies. Along with topics such as Healthy Relationships, Sex Education, Physical Health and Mental Wellbeing.

PASTORAL CARE

Our pastoral care is at the heart of what we do and woven through every student's experience, fostering friendly relationships among our students and daily opportunities to speak openly to all staff. Our dedicated Pastoral and Safeguarding Team are on hand to provide 1:1 emotional wellbeing support and triage students, when required, for a range of external support services.

LeAF Studio foster a whole school approach to promoting happy, healthy, tolerant, resilient and safe students.

CAREERS

LeAF Studio students are provided with the opportunity to attend our very popular careers opportunities, including the Move It Performing Arts Convention in London, external sporting careers events and our Trust Careers Fayre. At these events, students will have the opportunity to meet with further and higher education providers as well as employers to broaden their horizons and learn how they can progress in their chosen career pathway. In Year 10 they will also take part in work experience in order to gain direct first-hand experience of the world of work. Students also have access to our dedicated and impartial Careers Advisor across all year groups.

ADMISSIONS

LeAF Studio has places for 80 students per year group in Year 9, 10 and 11.

If you wish to apply to LeAF Studio, you will need to complete an online application form, available on our website.

www.leafstudio.co.uk/apply

All applicants will follow this process:

- Step 1 – Fully completed application form
- Step 2 – Aptitude workshop/testing
- Step 3 – On being informed of a successful aptitude test result, apply to LA

We will contact you to arrange visiting LeAF Studio for your aptitude workshop and testing. All application stages must be completed by 31 October. Applications are available after this time, however please note with limited places LeAF we cannot guarantee any spaces available following the October deadline. Please visit our website for this information.

Applications to LeAF Studio are in line with BCP school admissions. Application deadlines can be found on our website.

APTITUDE TESTING

PERFORMING ARTS

Applicants will be required to participate in group workshops and complete individual testing linked to their chosen GCSE specialism options.



SPORT

Applicants will complete fitness testing and participate in skill based sessions.



Part of the Ambitions Academies Trust



LeAF
Studio



LEAF
STUDIO
SIXTH
FORM

PERFORMING ARTS | SPORT | ACADEMICS

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