



# Hadrian Academy

Achieving Excellence Together



# Welcome to Hadrian Academy

## Ofsted say:

“Pupils are very enthusiastic about their learning and proud of their school. While they particularly enjoy sport, music and the different topics, they work well in lessons.”  
“Teaching is typically good and some is outstanding. Teachers skilfully ask questions which not only check understanding but also develop pupils’ thinking and learning.”

### Foreword: Hannah Bennett, Principal, Hadrian Academy

It’s a real privilege to welcome you and your child to our marvellous, friendly and very caring school.

### High academic standards

We pride ourselves on very high standards in all areas of our exciting and varied curriculum. Our standards in literacy and numeracy are the bedrock for all other learning, and our results put us on the top rungs of the ladder in Bedfordshire.

Ofsted have rated us overall as a ‘Good School’.

### Creative curriculum

We believe the more varied and creative the curriculum, the easier it is to motivate children to learn and easier for children to excel academically. Our children love to discover, build, observe and explore. We also promote an ‘I can do’ approach to education:

- I can help myself
- I can help my school
- I can help my local community
- ...and I can help others beyond the school and globally!

All year groups regularly undertake an enterprise activity, which helps them, to help others - while developing important life skills. Examples are ‘Flourishing Fiver’ (where children raise more money through charitable events), to charitable events such as ‘I’m a T.A, get me out of here!’ All activities are planned with the children’s thoughts, interests and skills in mind. We support a range of charities each academic year.

### Parent partnership

Another important part of our school, is you, the parent! And you will see, by reading the many parent and pupil stories within this prospectus, that you and your child are very important to us. We champion the link

between school and parent and work very hard to involve you in every step of your child’s time here... and increase your child’s enjoyment of learning.

### Get in touch

I would urge you to visit our wonderful school. I am truly confident you will find this a welcoming and supportive school, with staff that listen, consult and actively encourage your involvement. I know that you will be impressed by the quality of education we can offer your child.

To make an appointment to visit, or to simply ask me a question, please email the school office on [hadrianacademy@cbc.beds.sch.uk](mailto:hadrianacademy@cbc.beds.sch.uk) or call on 01582 618400.

# Why Helen and Sean selected Hadrian Academy for their son

Helen and Sean believe the fantastic sporting opportunities and active parent association provide children with an enriched education at Hadrian Academy

“There always seems to be something new to really help engage the children’s interest and enhance the whole learning experience”

**Helen and Sean Taylor live in Dunstable with their children Connor, eleven, Harrison, eight in Year 3 and Riley three.**

### No hesitation

Helen says: “The children were so happy and the school just felt right. We didn’t feel the need to look elsewhere. There always seems to be something new to really help engage the children’s interest and enhance the whole learning experience.”

### Fantastic sporting opportunities

One of Harrison’s favourite classes is PE and there are plenty of sport choices on offer at Hadrian Academy. “For a child who loves being outside Hadrian Academy is brilliant.

There’s tennis, hockey, street dance, athletics; and if there’s something else you’d like to see introduced, the Principal is always open to suggestions. The sports on offer are a great extension of play - Harrison loves being with his friends and really enjoys the outdoor opportunities.”

### Healthy competition and strong teamwork

The team element continues with the use of houses. The children are divided into four different groups and rewarded with house points. “They’re encouraged to wear the right uniform and to look smart, to be polite and helpful to other people and behave well,” explains Helen. She believes the house system instils some healthy competition and strong

teamwork skills among the children. “I think the children really enjoy that side of things. It gives them something to focus towards and they love it when their house is winning!”

### Parental involvement

The school actively encourages parental involvement and family participation. Helen has enjoyed being part of the Parent Teachers Association (AHA). “There are always lots of volunteers for the events we arrange. It’s such a friendly community.”

Helen is extremely proud of how the AHA has helped provide additional resources for the children. “We’ve been fortunate to have great support from the parents,” says Helen. We’ve

provided iPads for the Foundation children, which is brilliant! Some of the dads helped us to build a sandpit and we’ve also paid for a tyre park at the school. We’ve bought a fantastic outdoor adventure trail for Years 4, 5 and 6. It’s so nice to be able to help the school develop for the benefit of the children.”

### Children say:

Harrison: “I loves my maths lessons at Hadrian Academy the best because each lesson is always different!”



# School day



## School hours

School registration is at 8.50am, and children can arrive in the playground from 8.45am. School finishes at 3.15pm.

## Before and After School Care Clubs

Before and After School Care Clubs are known as the Cool Kids Club. The breakfast club is open every day between 8.00am and 8.50am. Breakfast is available up to 8.20am. The after school club is open every day between 3.15pm and 5.25pm. Children have a snack and then participate in a variety of activities. All clubs must be booked and paid for in advance.

## Uniform

Most items of school uniform are available from a variety of stores. For uniform featuring the Hadrian Academy logo, please contact the school uniform shop, BESTLOOK at 68 High Street North, Dunstable.

# Learning is exciting!



## Enriched curriculum: singing and music

Every child in Years 4, 5 and 6 has the opportunity to play a musical instrument. We also offer individual or small group tuition with peripatetic teachers.

Hadrian Academy is a 'Gold Sing Up School', which demonstrates our commitment to enriching our curriculum, with stimulating singing sessions. We have a very active choir which we believe helps the children to develop both their academic skills and their confidence.



## School Meals and snacks

Nutritious, hot cooked school lunches are from the on-site school kitchens. Children may bring in packed lunches too.

## Snacks and drink

We have a Healthy School Award, and encourage healthy eating. Children in Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided with a fruit or vegetable snack each day. You may send in a fruit or vegetable snack daily for older children in Key Stage 2.

All children have access to water at school.

# 'Thumbs up for school dinners'



## The curriculum is divided into four phases:

- Early Years Foundation Stage (age 4 – 5 years)
- Key Stage 1 (age 5 – 7 years)
- Lower Key Stage 2 (age 7 – 9 years)
- Upper Key Stage 2 (age 9 – 11 years)

### Reception

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum is based on seven areas of learning:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

### Key Stages 1-2

Areas of the curriculum are:

- Mathematics
- English
- Science
- Information and Design Technology
- History
- Geography
- Art
- Music
- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- Personal Social Health and Citizenship Education.

We hold an annual inter-school Key Stage 'Spelling Bee'



Emma and Grant believe a creative, friendly environment supports good academic results, and that Hadrian Academy offers that and more

"I think Hadrian Academy really allows children to focus on their strengths and develop these further"



**Emma and Grant Linney live in Dunstable with their two children Kitty, six, in Year 1 and Eden, eight, in Year 3.**

#### Strengths

"I think Hadrian Academy really allows children to focus on their strengths and develop these further," says Emma. "We've been really impressed with the 'Star Reader' scheme. The girls' literacy and reading has really come on!"

#### Individual personality traits

"They adapt the way they talk to the children. Those who are less confident will be linked

to other children who are more so - it just really helps to get the best from each child. Teamwork is a really important value for Hadrian Academy. It's a really positive attitude to teach the children.

"The girls are never bored. They always feel engaged and importantly, they want to go to school. Enjoying lessons is a necessity to learning."

#### Wonderful creative opportunities

The school offers a brilliant opportunity to participate in London Academy of Music and

Dramatic Arts (LAMDA) exams. "As a creative family, the Arts is an important consideration for us," explains Emma. Kitty and Eden have chosen to participate and are really enjoying learning and exploring lots of lots of creative activities across the curriculum," says Emma. "Having the choice to do this is fantastic! The girls' confidence at public speaking has grown massively, and their ability to learn something without needing the words in front of them has really developed. LAMDA is an opportunity that teaches them some important and transferable skills for the future."

#### Children say:

Eden says: "I like Hadrian because the teachers are kind and it's a pleasure to learn there!"

Kitty says: "I love going to Hadrian Academy to learn and to play with my friends!"





## Extended curriculum: trips and visits

To extend the curriculum, and make learning even more fun, we offer many trips and activities including a residential in years 4 and 6 and various day trips linked to curriculum topics, for all the year groups. The school invite in visiting theatre groups as well as making full use of the local theatre. Annually the school hold a Celebrate and Shine production. Every fourth year this takes place at the Grove Theatre. The choir are invited to perform at a variety of events. Some, such as The Mayor's Civic Service, are prestigious..

As a school we excel at a number of different sports and our children regularly compete against other local schools. We have won places in County Finals in a number of events.

## Communicating with parents

We hold termly parent/carer consultations where we will discuss with you your child's progress through the curriculum, and iron out any problems. You can also make an appointment to see the class teacher at any time throughout the school year.

There is also a regular newsletter which can be viewed on the school website and which is sent to all parents, along with any other communication by Parentmail.

## Report

We send home a report in the summer term showing progress, attainment and effort.

Residential trip to Grafham Water

Lynda believes Hadrian Academy's excellent behaviour policy and fantastic sports and music opportunities have provided a confident learning environment for her children



Lynda and Andrew Hewitt live in Dunstable with their three children, Henry, seventeen, Alfie, sixteen and Harriette, ten, in Year 5.

## An easy choice

Lynda attended the school as a child and has fond memories of her time there. "I think Hadrian Academy have really got the balance right," says Lynda. "Harriette is achieving and progressing very well and we feel she is pushed, but those children that are perhaps struggling a little definitely receive support too."

## An open door policy

"Being able to chat with the teachers has always been something I have appreciated. You can do that at Hadrian Academy. They will always make themselves available. Knowing how your children are progressing and keeping parents updated is something the staff are very good at doing."

## Children say:

Harriette says: "I like Hadrian Academy for the range of activities before, during and after school! And the lessons are fun!"

"Harriette is achieving and progressing very well!"



# Inclusion: a curriculum for all



## Gifted and talented children

We recognise that all children are individuals with their own specific needs, gifts and talents. Children who are identified as being exceptionally able or talented, are monitored and provided with stimulating and enriching lessons appropriate to their needs.

## Special Educational Needs

We are totally committed to providing high quality provision and support for pupils who have special needs of any kind. We modify the

curriculum where needed to ensure that all children can access education that is tailored to them. Where appropriate we work with external agencies to provide this.

## Access

Children with a physical disability are fully supported in accessing all parts of the school downstairs.

## Different cultures and languages

We feel that it is important for children to be aware of, and understand, other cultures and religions. Such variety within school brings great enrichment to the teaching and learning that takes place.

As part of our Religious Education curriculum, we visit different places of worship and have visitors into school. we have visited the Hindu Mandhir in Luton, to learn about the Hindu Special Place.



"Hadrian Academy is amazing because you get to learn lots! And my teachers are great!"

An outstanding education in a caring and fun-filled environment - Michelle and Des couldn't ask for more from Hadrian Academy for their two gifted and talented children

Michelle and Des live in Dunstable with their children Louisa and Ryan in Year 2 and Year 4

## The right balance

"We got such a good feel for the school," says Michelle, "Whilst I want my children to be in a disciplined environment, we want them to have the fun factor too because life can get too serious."

## Respectful interaction

Having had the opportunity to help out in the classroom, Michelle has been impressed

with the level of respect shown to the pupils at Hadrian Academy. "Our children will always respond better to adults who show them respect and treat them as individuals. The way they interact with the children is the way we would interact with our children. Seeing that in action made me feel really comfortable about the school environment."

## Gifted and talented

Louisa and Ryan have both been identified by the school as gifted and talented in different areas of the curriculum. Michelle and Des have been really pleased with the support they have

received to ensure their needs are being met and their skills developed to their full potential. "The children are constantly encouraged and challenged to ensure they don't get bored in class. It's great to know this kind of thing is identified and that they are pushed to achieve the best they can," says Michelle. "Ryan has an extra lesson in maths each week. We're confident they'd also get the support they needed if they were struggling in an area too."

## Children say:

Louisa says: "Hadrian Academy is amazing because you get to learn lots! And my teachers are great!"

Ryan says: "Hadrian Academy is excellent because you make lots of friends and have fun while learning!"





There are a wide variety of clubs that children can join, during class, lunchtime and after school. Options often include:

- flute and guitar
- cricket
- volleyball
- football for boys and girls
- choir
- street dance
- athletics
- French
- hockey
- sewing
- gymnastics
- street soccer
- cricket

### Drama: London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) exams

We are the only LAMDA speaking and listening exam centre for this area, with Hadrian children getting 100% pass rate. Fantastic recognition for our drama classes!

### Sport competitions

The school regularly enters local inter-school sports competitions, and does very well... frequently winning or in the top three.



We encourage pupils to take part in community activities and frequently celebrate their achievements in assembly recognising the benefits.

### Children say:

Isabelle says: "I really like the different stories we read and all the things we talk about afterwards. And playtimes are lots of fun!"

Harry says: "I'm a prefect at the moment and I love looking after people and being given jobs to do!"

## Outstanding support through a difficult time has ensured Marie knows her children feel safe and secure at Hadrian Academy

"I'm a prefect at the moment and I love looking after people and being given jobs to do!"

Marie Witton lives in Dunstable with her children Harry, nine, in Year 4 and Isabelle, six in Year 1.

### The right balance

Marie and Andy chose Hadrian Academy for their children after hearing many positive comments from others. "The school has lots to offer in terms of how they treat children as individuals and with respect. We wanted our children to learn right from wrong but to also have an enjoyable experience whilst learning," explains Marie. "If your children feel happy with their school environment, I think that says a lot."

### Unique support

Circumstances changed dramatically for the Witton family when Andy sadly passed away in October 2013. This had a huge impact on them all. "It's been a really difficult time for the whole family. Hadrian Academy has managed to support us all throughout," explains Marie.

Concerned over how the children were going to cope through such a life-changing experience, Marie has been incredibly impressed with the support offered to Harry and Isabelle. "A family support worker was offered to us. She has been really good at keeping in touch with the children at school," explains Marie. "Knowing that she has been there and that they can talk to her whenever they need to has been so reassuring for me."

### Caring and considerate

Managing grief is an incredibly difficult experience for anybody, but when young children are affected, an ongoing caring and sensitive approach is important. "All of the staff, from the teaching assistants to the Headteacher, have been brilliant throughout. I couldn't have asked for more support to be honest," says Marie. "When they're not with me, I need to know they're being cared for."

### A practical and sensitive approach

Other measures offered by Hadrian Academy have ensured educational needs have continued to be met and offered a level of consistency for the children. "The school was incredibly understanding in helping the children complete their homework, which took the pressure off me, but also meant they completed the same work as the other children," says Marie.

### No hesitation

"I have really appreciated the school's ability to treat my children as individuals. For any parent, knowing your children are happy at school is so important. I know Harry and Isabelle are cared for by Hadrian Academy."



# Admissions



Parents who are thinking of applying for a place at our school are invited to visit and look around at any time. Children start at Hadrian Academy in the Autumn term of the academic year in which they will have their fifth birthday.

## Applications

The Local Authority Admissions Office deals with all new admissions to Hadrian Academy School. Contact details for Local Authority Admissions are:

Tel: 0300 300 8037  
 Email: [admissions@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)  
 Web: <http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/learning/schools/school-admissions/>

Staff in our school office are also able to help with enquiries.

# Getting involved: hands up for school



## Association of Hadrian Academy (AHA)

AHA is our Parents and Friends Association, and is very active. All parents automatically become members when their children join the school and are warmly invited to take part in the fundraising and social activities.

Every planning meeting is open for all parents to attend. There is no 'committee' apart from chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary and treasurer. The money raised goes towards equipment such as musical instruments, sandpits, computers and educational visitors.

If you would like more information, please contact the school office.

## Governorship

The Governing Body consists of representatives of parents, teachers and other governors. They work closely with the staff and Senior Leadership Team to support the school and plan its strategic developments.

Our criteria for being an effective Governing Body is that:

- we help to shape the vision and direction of the school
- we ensure the school fulfils its statutory duties
- we understand the strengths and weaknesses of the school
- we challenge and support the Principal and the Senior Leadership Team.

## Do you want to be a Governor?

If you want to be a school governor, please contact the school office.



# How to find us

We are ambitious; resilient and Creative- always **READY** to learn

We are role models; kind and honest- always **RESPECTFUL**

We are **SAFE** to achieve excellence together



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