



STEWARDS  
ACADEMY  
Science Specialist

Excellence with Integrity; Success with Soul



# Welcome to STEWARDS ACADEMY

## Science Specialist

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As Headteacher of Stewards Academy, I would like to introduce you to what I believe is an exceptional school, with an excellent reputation, achieving education of the highest quality.

### Our motto:

*'Excellence with Integrity; Success with Soul'* defines our commitment to both the very highest of academic standards whilst also providing a wealth of opportunities to grow and learn. We aim to ensure that pupils have the necessary knowledge, skills, and attributes to be highly successful, but also to contribute positively to society as well-rounded and respectful citizens. While we continue to maintain our excellent standards in the ever-changing world, we ensure the choices we make are wholly in the best interests of the pupils and no child is left behind. We believe our children deserve a childhood and enjoyment should very much be part of their educational experience.

### Our Vision Statement says:

*'We measure success by the way we touch people's lives;*

*nurturing, challenging, and creating opportunities to grow and learn, leading to safe, fulfilling and purposeful lives.'*

Pupil achievement is at the heart of all we do. We offer excellent teaching and our strong links with the Prince's Teaching Institute show our commitment to inspiring a passion for knowledge and deep learning for its own sake. We prepare our pupils not only for examination success, but we also ensure they are truly ready for the next step in their educational journey and will continue to be successful beyond the school gates. Our broad and balanced curriculum and an impressive range of extra-curricular activities are provided within an exceptionally supportive environment.

Stewards is a leading Science Specialist Academy, offering a truly comprehensive education for all abilities, having been the recipient of the Inclusion Quality Mark for several years. We have created an environment of trust and collaboration - a place where everyone is respected and where the traditional values

of mutual care, consideration, and acceptance flourish. Everyone has a vital part to play in developing our school. We listen to our students, respect their views, and regularly celebrate their successes and achievements across the whole spectrum of school life. We have strong links with our parents and with the business community. Visitors invariably comment on the friendly, purposeful, and welcoming atmosphere.

I hope that if you have not already visited Stewards, you will take the opportunity to come and see for yourselves. Our pupils and staff would be proud to show you our school and will make you very welcome.

**Helen Ginger BSc**  
*Headteacher*



“Pupils are encouraged to have high aspirations and are given the guidance and support to make this an achievable reality”

## The Curriculum

Stewards Academy has long enjoyed a reputation for high quality teaching. At Key Stage 3 we offer a broad and balanced curriculum including English, mathematics, science, technology, Modern Foreign Languages (French and Spanish), history, geography, Religious Studies, art, music, drama, ICT, P.E. and Ethics and Values (PSHE).

At Key Stage 4 all pupils study the core subjects of English, mathematics, science, P.E. and Ethics and Values. Many pupils also study languages and humanities as core subjects in line with the English Baccalaureate (Ebacc) requirement. In addition, all pupils choose from an impressive range of option subjects which lead to formal accreditation, including a range of vocational qualifications such as Engineering, Child Development and Hair & Beauty.

## A Science Specialist Academy

Science Specialist status brings additional learning experiences and opportunities to all pupils, not only those who have a keen interest in Science.

The Science Department has been accredited as a Leading Science Department. We are affiliated with the Ogden Trust and are an associate department of the Prince's Teaching Institute, which recognises the quality of our teaching and learning research within

science on a national level. Pupils study either the Separate Sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) or Combined Science. There is also an extensive programme of extra-curricular STEM related activities. We host visiting speakers from the world of science and organise a variety of trips to places of scientific interest. Science Club is a popular weekly activity where pupils have great fun learning about topics such as, space exploration, astronomy, robotics and ecology. Our pupils have exciting opportunities to take part in science projects including the Institute of Engineering and Technology Faraday Engineering Challenge, National Physics Laboratory Water Rocket Challenge, Gravity Racing Car, Christmas lectures, CREST in a day challenges, Geobus experiments, Institute of Physics Lectures and Raspberry Pi.

## The Arts

Stewards is committed to the Arts and both visual and performing arts are a strength of the academy. There are a wide variety of clubs offered throughout the year including: art, dance, drama, choir, and instrumental tuition. Harlow Community Music Centre also offers lessons weekly, offering individual lessons on a wide variety of instruments, ensembles, and musical theory.

Many successful arts events are held during the year, including drama productions, Shakespeare Schools Festival, art exhibitions, and dance performances. The

whole-school production regularly brings together a cast and crew of over 60 pupils to perform in front of large audiences of primary school pupils, parents, and members of the local community. We also hold regular musical events such as the Christmas Concert and the Summer Concert, giving pupils an opportunity to showcase their considerable musical talents.

The arts subjects are popular options for Key Stage 4 with GCSE courses running in art, dance, drama, music, and photography.

## Sport

All pupils experience a range of PE lessons including traditional team sports, athletics, swimming, and dance. GCSE PE is a very popular examination course where students are encouraged to explore the physical and mental elements of sport and their possible applications to everyday life. Vocational qualifications in PE are also on offer at KS4.

There is an active extra-curricular programme which includes a range of sports. Inter-form sports competitions, Sports Day, the swimming gala, and league fixtures are regular features of the sporting calendar culminating in the Annual Sports Presentation Evening.

“The school’s **Gifted & Talented** Programme recognises and **nurtures** pupils’ different **attributes** including their academic **potential**, wider **talents** and **leadership qualities**.”





“Pupils are actively encouraged to tackle new challenges underpinned by the impressive range of extra-curricular enrichment opportunities and trips.”

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## Personalised Learning

Stewards is an inclusive school which caters for all abilities and aims to support all pupils to achieve success.

## High Attaining Pupils

We are committed to providing the best possible education for our most academically able pupils. Using information from primary schools, results of objective tests given on entry to Stewards Academy and information from subject teachers, High Attainers are identified early in Year 7. We have extensive provision for these pupils including the following:

- Setting by ability groups in the core subjects and Modern Foreign Languages
- Specialist Honours programme (including support evenings for parents)
- Brilliant Club – an opportunity to complete a university style dissertation
- Enrichment activities programme including day trips and residential
- Masterclasses
- University visits and taster days
- Opportunities for achievement in National Awards and competitions
- Public speaking opportunities and involvement in meeting well-known public figures

## Learning Support

We recognise that some pupils experience learning difficulties and at times need additional support. A range of support is provided such as:

- Reading Recovery programme
- Specialist learning packages
- In-class support from Learning Support Assistants
- Learning Mentor support
- Referral to ‘The Bridge’ (Support for emotional, social and behavioural needs)
- Counselling with specialists from outside agencies
- Careers guidance and access to vocational skills
- Parent support evenings

## Personalised Development

We recognise that our responsibility to young people lies far beyond that of educational advancement and that it is essential that we develop our pupils in the fullest sense. Our values of COURAGE: Confidence, Opportunity, Unity, Resilience, Appreciation, Generosity and Enjoyment are apparent in all aspects of school life and are promoted and developed at every opportunity.

*Our Curriculum Intent defines our commitment to ensure that pupils:*

- have high personal standards and approach their studies with maturity

- experience a high quality, knowledge-rich curriculum that is planned and sequenced appropriately across the years
- are provided with opportunities to suit their individual talents and interests and high-quality support to enable success
- have the necessary social skills to work effectively together, showing mutual respect and tolerance of others
- are prepared for their future and many changes in their lifetime, both in the world of work and along their personal journey.

## Phoenix Curriculum

At Stewards, we recognise and value the contribution that extra-curricular activities bring to the personal and social development of our pupils. We provide an extensive range of extra-curricular clubs and educational visits. These include theatre trips, day trips abroad, university taster days and field work. As an extended school, we also offer breakfast club every morning; homework club; revision and coursework clinics; and, a range of sports, arts, science, and ICT activities.

Residential visits are an important feature of academy life as they enable our young people to be responsible global citizens and to extend our pupils’ perspective on life. A range of trips are offered during the first four years of the secondary curriculum.

“The school runs like **clockwork**: pupils are **impeccably behaved**, and everything is **purposeful** and well **organised**.”

## Phoenix Challenge

At Stewards Academy we strive for academic success for each individual pupil as well as seeking to develop the whole child throughout their time with us. The Phoenix Challenge promotes engagement in all opportunities open to pupils. Completing a series of tasks and challenges that count towards prestigious awards, pupils gain essential experience and begin to build evidence for their Records of Achievement. We aim to ensure a wide range of amazing opportunities for all through our *Phoenix Challenge*.

## Career programme

Stewards has been accredited the prestigious ROQA award in recognition of the quality of work-related learning provision. We have developed strong links with industry and commerce. Pupils enjoy many opportunities to work with business, including a work experience placement in Year 10. Information, guidance and support from our Careers Team, Learning Mentors and Guidance Officers, assist pupils in their choice of careers, further and higher education. There is an extensive programme of visits available to all pupils. Work-related learning is integrated into the curriculum within subject disciplines and our Ethics and Values programme (PSHE).

## Facilities

Stewards Academy offers very good facilities. Our specialist areas include the following:

- 9 science laboratories
- 6 ICT suites
- Performing arts facilities for music, drama, and dance
- A purpose-built technology centre, and state of the art food technology facilities
- A vocational Hair and Beauty Centre
- Art and design studios which include a Photography Centre
- A sports hall including a Fitness Suite and modern changing facilities
- A heated indoor swimming pool
- A multi-use games area
- A Learning Support Department (The Bridge)
- A well-resourced library
- 3 purpose-built dining rooms
- A food and vegetable garden and a Chinese Garden
- A modern unisex toilet facility

Many specialist areas have been refurbished to a high standard and include additional access and facilities for pupils and adults with disabilities. A secure bike storage area is also available.

All members of staff are provided with laptops for teaching and all classrooms have interactive whiteboards, visualisers and projectors.



“Stewards Academy has a **well-deserved reputation** locally, which is reflected in the **overwhelmingly positive comments** on Parent View.”





“The pupils, parents and staff say the school is like a family, in the best sense of the word, in that everyone looks out for one another and appreciates the efforts, attributes and achievement of others.”

*OFSTED 2017*





## Home School Partnership

The education of your child is a partnership between home and school. We look for the support of parents in ensuring that their children attend school regularly, are punctual, properly equipped, follow our Behaviour and Attendance Policy and are in full school uniform. There are regular communications between school and home. These are in the form of progress reports and letters or telephone calls when appropriate. Our ClassCharts system provides parents with daily updates on pupil success and includes homework information.

Throughout the year there are consultation evenings which coincide with a pupil individual progress report. General school news is communicated through regular newsletters, Twitter, and the Academy's website [www.stewardsacademy.org](http://www.stewardsacademy.org).

As children join the Academy, they are allocated to a tutor group. The tutor will remain with them

throughout their school career. This ensures continuity for each pupil as well as allowing a strong partnership to develop. The Pastoral Support Mentor and the form tutor are the main contact points for parents.

## Pupil Voice

There are numerous opportunities for pupils to participate in the life of the Academy and to take on positions of responsibility such as being a member of the School Council, Peer Mentoring or Prefect. Members of School Council play a very important role in the development of the Academy. They also regularly meet Governors at committee meetings and support at public events.

Four Year 11 pupils are elected by their peers to be Head Boy, Head Girl, Deputy Head Boy, and Deputy Head Girl. These pupils lead the Student Leadership Team that includes Heads of School Council, Heads of Charity Team, Heads of EMPV and Senior

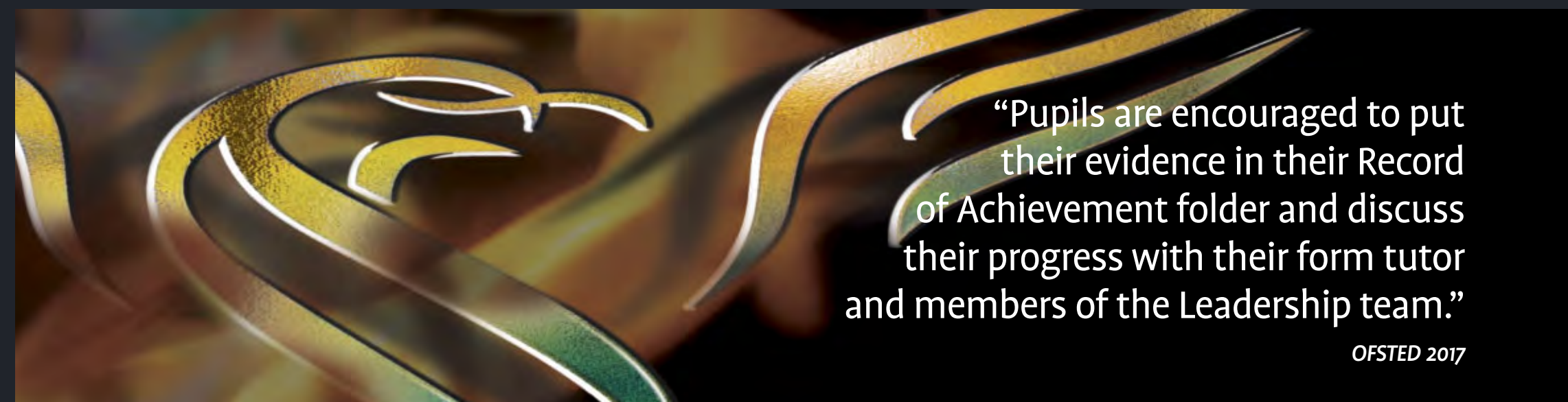
Prefects. Sharing the leadership of the school in this way encourages a sense of responsibility, helping young people to develop their confidence, maturity, and self-esteem.

Stewards has other pupil voice groups that are open to all pupils, including the Ethnic Minority Pupil Voice Group (EMPV), Charity Team and our LGBTQ+ group. Each group has regular meetings and organises events throughout the year.

## The Governing Body

Governors support the school wholeheartedly and play an active part in the life of the school. Former pupils and parents are well represented as is the business community, bringing a wide range of skills and experience to the benefit of the school.

*We hope you have found this prospectus informative. If you have any further questions, contact information is shown overleaf.*



“Pupils are encouraged to put their evidence in their Record of Achievement folder and discuss their progress with their form tutor and members of the Leadership team.”



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If you would like to visit and see the school at work, please telephone 01279 421951 or write to:

The Headteacher

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