



**South Shore Academy**  
BRIGHT FUTURES EDUCATIONAL TRUST



# Prospectus



# Welcome from the Principal

At South Shore Academy we are committed to providing our students with the education they need to become confident, articulate, independent learners and thinkers who are ready to take their place in the demanding world of the 21st century. Through the provision of high quality learning opportunities both in the classroom and outside, we demonstrate our determination to create active, healthy and informed citizens of tomorrow. South Shore Academy is a strongly inclusive school and we believe that all our students can achieve well and that everyone has something to contribute to the school and wider community. We are committed to meeting the needs of all students, whether it be providing additional support for learning for some or adding additional challenge for higher ability students.

We are proud of the excellent relationships that exist between staff and students. Within our culturally diverse student body, tolerance, respect and understanding are cornerstones for the strong relationships which exist. Parents and governors work in partnership with the school, in order to ensure that the young people of our community enjoy the highest standard of education.

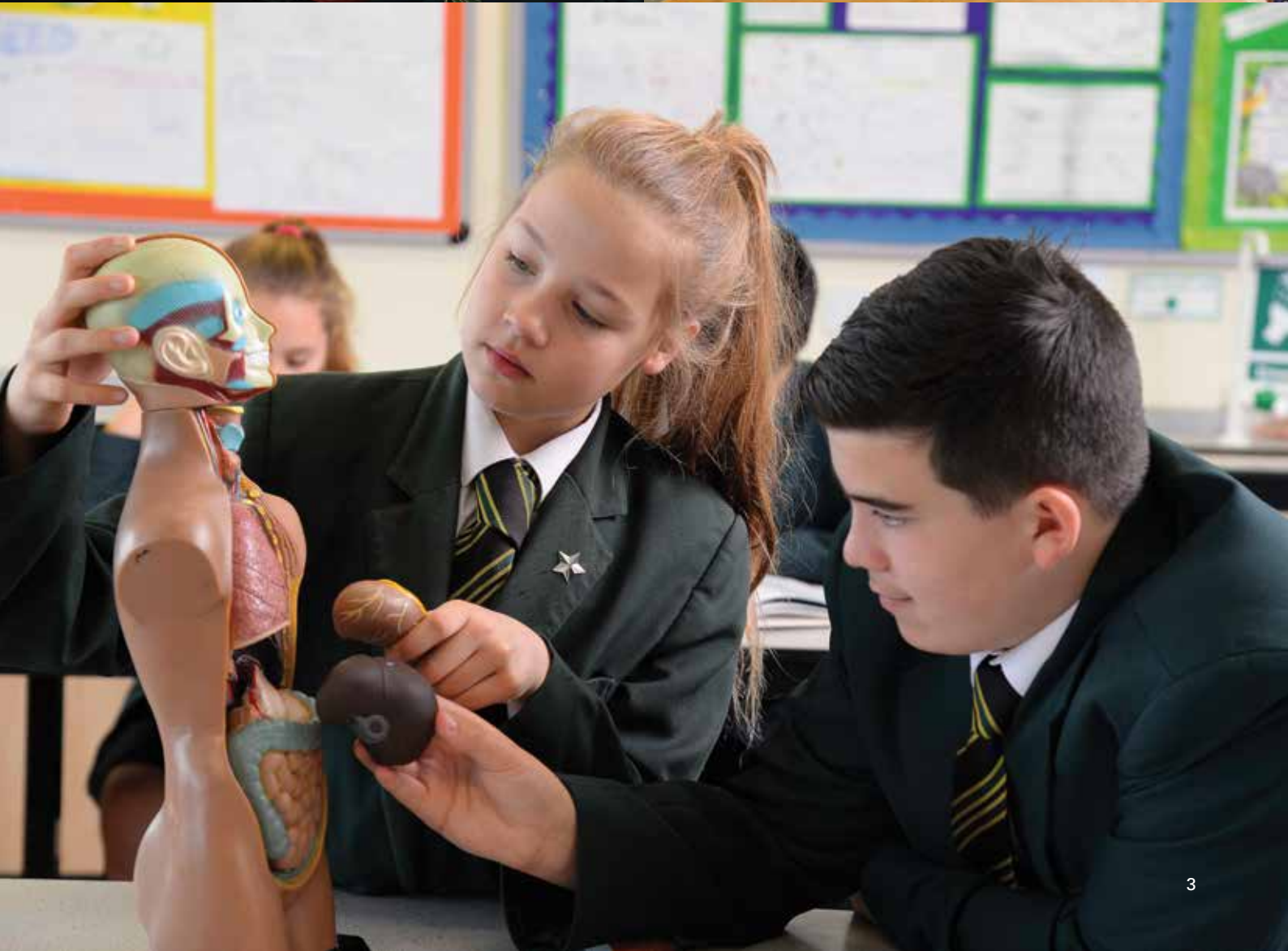
The traditional values of courtesy, discipline and respect are important to us and we believe that upholding them will help us to achieve results for all at South Shore.

We have very high expectations for our students in both behaviour and achievement and believe that everyone has the right to learn. Our positive and purposeful learning environment is built on mutual trust and respect and, with the support of parents and the community, we believe we can work in true partnership to support our students, your children.

South Shore Academy is a Bright Futures Educational Trust school, working together with a group of schools across the North West to provide a world class-education for all of our students. Being part of Bright Futures Educational Trust means that our students and staff can access resources from across the Trust's schools helping to raise aspirations and boost achievement across our community.

As many of you will be aware, our exciting new build is now well underway and being constructed by Morgan Sindall, also responsible for the extensive and impressive restoration and development of Manchester Victoria Station.

Choosing the 'right' school is one of the most important decisions that you will make for your child. Please feel welcome to make an appointment for a visit if you wish to see and learn more about our school. We hope you find all of the information in our prospectus useful and informative. Please contact us if you have any further questions and I look forward to meeting you in the future.



# A Bright Future for every young person

Welcome to South Shore Academy, a Bright Futures Educational Trust school. Bright Futures gives children and young people at its schools exciting educational and extra-curricular opportunities that help every student be the best that they can be.

South Shore Academy was one of the first schools to join Bright Futures Blackpool cluster, and is working with the Trust to help every student and member of staff to succeed. Leaders from South Shore are involved in collaboration and support with other Bright Futures schools, and we also receive advice from other leaders within the Trust whose expertise helps us to fully meet the needs of all our pupils. The Trust's programme of professional development is helping our staff to improve progress and attainment throughout the school, as well as boosting pupil wellbeing. The Academy's new leadership team has introduced creative and effective ways to learn inside and outside of the classroom, making learning even more fun for students. Bright Futures' dedicated child and educational psychologist, Dr Jude Joughin, works closely with Melland High's outstanding teachers to share SEND best practice with other schools across the Trust, helping every child to succeed.

South Shore Academy is a place where teachers love teaching and students love learning - ensuring a quality education for everyone.

**Dr John Stephens**  
Chief Executive Officer





## Creating Opportunities Inspiring Success

### Learning at South Shore Academy

At South Shore Academy the curriculum is carefully planned to ensure an innovative, engaging and quality education which will guarantee real choices for all our students and prepare them appropriately for their lives ahead in an ever changing world.

We offer a broad, ambitious and personalized curriculum which ensures all students acquire the basic skills of literacy and numeracy, are confident in the use of Information Technology, and develop the important social skills of co-operation, independence and resilience. Our challenge goes far beyond the classroom and we also offer an extensive programme of enrichment, extension and support.

During their time at South Shore Academy students are provided with a wealth of opportunities to flourish as individuals, grow as responsible members of a community and develop into accomplished and practised lifelong learners.

In Years 7 and 8 we provide a broad range of subject specific experiences to enable all our young people to acquire a wide ranging set of skills and abilities. From Year 9 onwards students are able to commence GCSE studies. These pathways are carefully constructed to allow choice and flexibility in a wide range of academic and applied subjects inspiring them to strive for further successes and guarantee progress to college or university.



# Supporting the Individual

We recognise that everyone needs to be challenged throughout their school life and we place great emphasis on monitoring individual academic achievement with regular and robust assessments reported on four times for each student during the Academy year. Parents will receive three interim reports and one full academic report. After each formal assessment the data is then used to track each student's progress and to put in rapid and effective interventions where necessary. A programme of enrichment and extension opportunities ensures all students are challenged in new and imaginative ways and are given numerous opportunities to excel, including potential membership of the nationally renowned Brilliant Club.

All lessons are matched to the needs of individuals enabling students to achieve their very best. Our Aspirations Programme compliments the 'Expectations' value of our RESPECT ethos by providing high quality academic enrichment activities including links and visits to Oxbridge and the Russell Universities. When a student is identified as having a particular learning need, our experienced Inclusion Team provides an extensive variety of support and interventions to support the individual and allow them to have equal access to the curriculum.

## Facilities

In September 2017, South Shore Academy will move into its new 'state of the art' building situated to the rear of the existing building. It will be able to offer our students some of the very best facilities available in Blackpool.

## ICT Facilities

We will be equipped with a 21st century ICT infrastructure to transform learning. Students will have access to specialist multimedia suites for video and music editing and we will be in a position to embrace the use of mobile technologies. We intend to develop a Virtual Learning Environment providing on-line access to lesson resources in class from home.

## Learning Resource Centre

The LRC at South Shore Academy will contain a wide range of books, audio visual resources and digital resources designed to compliment the use of mobile technology in learning. The LRC will be a vibrant place situated on the ground floor at the heart of the new building and will be available for wider community use.

## Music, Drama, Art, Dance

A music suite comprising of performance rooms and two rehearsal rooms with a wide range of musical equipment is planned supporting our commitment to the 'arts'. The large hall will be equipped for drama productions with retractable seating and professional sound and lighting rigs. In the new Sports Hall building, a professional dance studio is also located. On the top floor, with spectacular views across Blackpool and with optimum lighting will be our new art suite and kiln room.



# Life at South Shore

## Gifted & Talented

South Shore Academy has been accredited as a Gifted and Talented Outreach centre. The Academy has a whole school policy to address the needs of Gifted, Able and Talented students, and will work to continually develop this.

## S.E.N.D

South Shore Academy has a Special Educational Needs policy, which meets the code of practice and is overseen by the SENDCo.

## Healthy Eating

South Shore Academy achieved Healthy School Status in January 2009. The status recognises the work the Academy undertakes in relation to Personal, Social and Health Education, healthy eating, physical activity and emotional health and well-being of students, staff and visitors to the Academy.

The Academy has a Breakfast Club which starts at 7.30 a.m. for early arrivals, and healthy snacks are available at break.







## Pastoral Care

The overall welfare of any student is a key priority for us at South Shore Academy.

A variety of staff, including Form Tutors and Year Heads of Achievement play a key role in ensuring the welfare of all our students.

Considerable thought is given to placing students in tutor groups to which they will belong for their five years at school. We believe this continuity of support from the Form Tutor provides a sure base from which children can achieve their Year 11 potential.

In addition we have a number of Heads of Years whose roles are totally focused on providing pupils with the necessary support and guidance. The school also has a Health Mentor, Place 2 Be counselling services, Behaviour Mentors and Learning Mentors to support students in all aspects of school life.

Year 7 & 8 currently have their own base where they can socialise and eat together during their breaks and lunchtimes.







## Extra Curricular Activities

Here at South Shore we offer pupils a wide range of sporting, arts, media and language clubs to enrich their school experience.

- Breakfast Club
- Expressive Arts
- Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- Chess Club
- Dance Club
- School Choirs
- Computer Club
- Film Club
- Music Club
- Modern Languages Club
- South Shore TV
- Trampolining Club
- Young Enterprise
- Table Tennis Club
- Aqua Aerobics Club
- Instrumental Tuition
- Art Club
- Drama Club
- Dodgeball Club
- School Band (Samba & Orchestral)
- Science
- Charity Work
- Gymnastics Club
- Vaulting Club
- Fitness Club
- Swimming Club
- Climbing Club
- Athletic Clubs
- Tennis Club



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# Expectations at South Shore

## Attendance

As you are aware our Academy aspires to high expectations with regard to attendance. The Academy target is for every student to attain 100% attendance for each academic year. Students are expected in registration by 8.50 each morning ready to learn. It is proven that without a level of attendance equal to or exceeding 96% student performance is drastically reduced which, in turn, can reduce life chances of our students.

Tracking student performance nationally over many years has clearly shown that high attendance = high performance.

Secondary school pupils with no absence from school are nearly three times more likely to achieve five A\* to C GCSEs, including English and maths, and around 10 times more likely to achieve the English Baccalaureate, than pupils missing 15-20 per cent of school across Key Stage 4.

Missing even a short amount of time from school can reduce a pupil's chances of succeeding at school by as much as a quarter.

The Academy seeks to reward good attendance, through certificates for 100% attendance and prizes in rewards assemblies each half term, and improved attendance. Form rewards for improved attendance per half term, Head teacher rewards, and postcards of praise, bronze, silver and gold awards for attendance for 100% attendance over the academic year.

After any absence, students should bring a letter from their parents/ carers explaining reasons for absence. The Academy requires a phone call each day a child is absent.

As far as possible medical appointments should be made out of school time, medical evidence will be requested for all appointments if they are taken during the school day.

We run a number of attendance initiatives and work closely with Blackpool Council Pupil Welfare Service to ensure all our students attend school regularly.

Whenever students arrive late or leave early they must sign in and out via the attendance office.

Please check the Academy website for term dates and events.



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