



Leigh Academy  
**RAINHAM**

LEIGH ACADEMY RAINHAM



# Prospectus

Unlocking potential;  
making dreams a reality

# Leigh Academy Rainham is part of Leigh Academies Trust



Leigh Academies Trust is one of the country's largest and most-established multi-academy trusts operating across Kent, Medway and South East London. It contains primary, secondary and special academies and is highly inclusive and successful. Our mission is to deliver "education for a better world" by ensuring that young people in our academies have an excellent start in life regardless of their background or ability.

## Our Values

We care -

about our pupils and their families through our human scale approach to education, our staff and their well-being and the world around us, driven by our high ideals and strong moral values.

We have boundless ambition -

to achieve excellence for all and create confident young adults with high levels of resilience and integrity.

We work together -

as one team because we are greater than the sum of our parts. We foster an enterprising culture through global collaboration with partners in business and education.

We keep getting better -

using our 'can-do' attitude towards continuous improvement and innovation.



For admission enquiries telephone: 01634 412 200  
or email: [info@leighacademyrainham.org.uk](mailto:info@leighacademyrainham.org.uk)

'Lessons are hardly ever disrupted. The school is very calm and orderly. Pupils behave maturely, with high levels of self-control.'

Ofsted, February 2024



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# Welcome



## ‘Unlocking potential; making dreams a reality’

I am delighted to welcome you to Leigh Academy Rainham, a unique highly inclusive setting where tradition and innovation combine to create leaders of tomorrow. At Leigh Academy Rainham we promote an ethos of uncompromising high aspirations and expectations for every young person in terms of both their academic success and personal growth as caring, respectful global citizens who act with purpose and integrity.

As a Rainham community member who was born, raised and educated in the local area, I am both passionately and personally invested in ensuring Leigh Academy Rainham plays an instrumental role in shaping the future lives of our young people and transforming the local community. The wellbeing and success of each individual child is at the heart of everything we do. It is my ambition that the students who attend Leigh Academy Rainham develop an appreciation of the limitless possibilities ahead of them and our strapline of ‘Dream, Believe and Achieve’ reflects our strong shared belief that there is no ceiling to what a student can achieve, regardless of their ability and personal circumstances. In 2024 OFSTED celebrated the leadership, behaviour and personal development programme at Leigh Academy Rainham as being **outstanding** and I am incredibly proud of the exceptional educational service we provide the children of our community.

At Leigh Academy Rainham we unlock potential and make dreams a reality. Students in our community flourish, becoming inquiring, compassionate and culturally aware young adults who will have the essential skills, knowledge and attributes to thrive in a world of careers that, as yet, we can only imagine.

We look forward to welcoming you as members of our community.

Alex Millward,  
Principal

Leigh Academy Rainham is a Candidate School\* for the MYP. This school is pursuing authorization as an IB World School. These are schools that share a common philosophy—a commitment to high quality, challenging, international education that Leigh Academy Rainham believes is important for our students.

\*Only schools authorized by the IB Organization can offer any of its four academic programmes: the Primary Years Programme (PYP), the Middle Years Programme (MYP), the Diploma Programme, or the Career-related Programme (CP). Candidate status gives no guarantee that authorization will be granted. For further information about the IB and its programmes, visit [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org).

‘Unlocking potential;  
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# Our Vision

Our values ‘Dream, Believe and Achieve’ reflect our strong belief that there is no ceiling to what a student can achieve, regardless of their ability and personal circumstances. We believe in developing the whole child, embracing individuality and celebrating success in a multitude of ways. Students will be supported to excel in understanding and applying a knowledge and skills rich curriculum, gaining the necessary academic accomplishments and talents to embrace a variety of further educational and vocational opportunities. Every student is empowered to become a confident digital citizen through the use of their 1:1 device, equipping them with the skills to succeed in our diverse world where technology and research is rapidly advancing. The curriculum is also underpinned by the International Baccalaureate MYP Programme, creating diversity of thought and an open-mindedness that will enable them to thrive moving forwards.

Promotion and development of the LEIGH Learner attributes of Leigh Academy Rainham is seamlessly interwoven throughout the academic, pastoral and co-curriculum offer. Leadership, Emotional intelligence, Inquisitive, Grit and Humility are key qualities that we will instil in our community members and they will mature into reflective and resilient learners, confident critical thinkers and effective collaborators who can work both independently and as a team to overcome challenges. Our commitment to work with groups in the community to become an Eco-School will foster an environment within which students will be empowered to take an active role in leading change to protect their future planet, inspiring others to follow.

Our college structure ensures that the pastoral and academic learning experience of every student is personalised; students are nurtured and coached appropriately in a safe environment, with the necessary support and adjustments in place to meet our uncompromising expectations and aspirations in all walks of academy life. The academy is wholly committed to fostering strong partnerships with our families, understanding that excellent communication and relationships with parents and carers is a cornerstone of a child’s academic success and personal development.

At Leigh Academy Rainham we inspire a mentality that by embracing opportunities placed in front of you, the world is your oyster. Students will truly flourish, becoming inquiring, compassionate, culturally and environmentally aware young adults with the skills, knowledge and attributes required to be highly successful in achieving their own personal goals, as caring members of our community and as leaders in tomorrow’s world.



A photograph of several students in school uniforms sitting at desks in a classroom, looking down at their work. The image is partially obscured by a teal overlay on the left and a gold overlay on the right.

## Our Values

The Leigh Academy Rainham Values are:

**Dream** – have high aspirations for yourself and your community.

**Believe** – be resilient, persistently striving to overcome challenges with purpose and integrity.

**Achieve** – become a highly successful lifelong learner and global citizen, capable of leading tomorrow's world.

**‘Pupils’ behaviour is exemplary. Pupils know that the school wants them to be the best they can be.’**

Ofsted, February 2024

## Our Curriculum

Curriculum at Leigh Academy Rainham is defined as the blueprint for all that will be taught, learnt and experienced by students within and beyond the classroom environment. Our vision that students will ‘Dream, Believe and Achieve’ is underpinned by the high quality curriculum on offer that is not only broad and innovative but designed to improve the life chances of our young people. Students will not only become masters in each of the disciplines but understand holistic overarching concepts that link academic and vocational subjects, PSHE and the fundamental british values; this will be achieved through an ongoing cycle of inquiry, application, assessment and improvement. Thoughtful cross-curricular planning ensures that topics between different subjects are well sequenced and aligned with a cohesive, coherent and chronological approach to the holistic delivery of concepts and content. This exposes students to limitless cross-curricular connections provoking students to make fascinating links and cumulatively gain knowledge which is embedded in their long term memory.

It is our duty to ensure that students leave the academy with the necessary personal, academic and social skills and cultural capital needed to thrive and succeed in their chosen careers.

# Our Curriculum

‘The school has designed a personal development curriculum that truly enriches pupils’ wider experience.’

Ofsted, February 2024

Our intent is that the Curriculum:

- Provides a broad, innovative and balanced curriculum that is challenging, comprehensive, underpinned by the principles of the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme and is accessible to all students, regardless of academic ability or need.
- Delivers opportunities for students to become accomplished and reflective lifelong learners, with useful, transferable skills, enhanced digital literacy and well embedded schemas of knowledge and understanding across a range of disciplines, including numeracy, and literacy.
- Fosters a culture in which students are independent, highly ambitious and achieve to the best of their ability, opening doors to a variety of future opportunities and enabling them to access further education and careers of their choice.
- Expands students’ perspectives through a range of spiritual, moral, social and cultural opportunities, creating globally aware young citizens with a sense of moral and social responsibility who also have the necessary IB Profile attributes to overcome the challenges they are likely to encounter in life.

## Co-curricular Offer

At Leigh Academy Rainham we pride ourselves on developing the whole child and our rich, holistic co-curriculum offer provides a wealth of opportunities for students to experience new interests, hobbies, skills, trips and activities beyond lessons. These fulfilling experiences can enrich students lives, allow friendships to blossom and nurture their confidence and self esteem. Co-curricular clubs and activities can provide students with a sense of purpose. It is a platform for them to have a voice and a safe environment in which they can truly flourish.

KS3 Subject Disciplines:

- Language & Literature
- Sciences
- Mathematics
- Individuals & Societies - Humanities and RE
- Arts - Music, Drama, Dance and Art
- Language Acquisition - MFL
- Design - IT, Textiles, Food and Product Design
- Physical Education & Health

KS4 Subject Disciplines:

- English Language & Literature
- Double and Triple Science
- Mathematics
- Humanities - History and Geography
- Arts - Fine Art, Performing Arts, Dance
- Technology - Hospitality & Catering, Design and Technology
- Spanish, French
- Sport and Health
- Retail Business
- Creative IMedia
- Travel & Tourism

From 2026 this offer will continue to grow to include further additional subjects, for example Textiles, Photography and Business Studies.

Co-curricular clubs and societies run on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 3-4pm. These are led by class teachers and the vast majority of our students take part in at least one club including Warhammer, table tennis, photography, drama, chess and Lego. In addition, Homework Club runs everyday from 3-4pm in the library for students to complete their home learning or further independent studies with the support of the librarian and teaching assistants.



# Curriculum Implementation

The implementation of the curriculum is the way in which the intended curriculum content and skills are delivered, taught and learned. In order for implementation of our innovative and broad curriculum to be highly effective teachers must demonstrate expert knowledge of both their subject and pedagogy. Equally, teachers plan high quality sequences of learning, with interdisciplinary links that support students to be suitably challenged, think, articulate, apply and problem solve fluently. In addition students are provided with opportunities to nurture and develop inquiring minds and master lifelong approaches to learning skills.

Highly effective curriculum implementation will:

- Embed accumulated knowledge in students' long term memory through well considered, systematic retrieval practice tasks, enabling them to form rich schemata (knowledge and understanding) over time.
- Utilise direct instruction, modelling and dual coding to reduce cognitive load, effectively share expert knowledge, introduce novel content and demonstrate approaches to learning skills.

‘During lessons, attentive pupils focus extremely well. They show tenacity and maturity in their learning.’

Ofsted, February 2024

- Enhance students' depth of understanding, promote new learning and develop their curiosity for life long learning through the use of astute and adaptive questioning that is both probing and thought provoking.
- Ensure students are able to independently problem solve, fluently apply their knowledge to questions which have interleaved concepts and master approaches to learning through guided and independent deliberate practice.
- Provide regular high quality feedback that astutely addresses misconceptions, plugs gaps in knowledge and prompts students to be highly reflective learners who engage with success criteria to make significant improvements and progress.
- Enhance students' literacy, numeracy and digital skill sets by embedding opportunities to develop students' reading and extended writing, solve mathematical challenges and use digital technology appropriately to enhance the learning experience.





# Digital Learning

Our digital curriculum will be underpinned by the principles of the IB MYP Programme and seamlessly embedded in all aspects of academy life through use of our 1:1 device scheme, creating LEIGH Learners who are highly competent in their use of technology and digitally literate. At Leigh Academy Rainham, technology will not replace traditional teaching methodologies but instead will augment, and elevate the way that new content and skills are delivered, providing a rich and diverse learning experience for our students. Technology will both bring the world into the classroom and transport students to any aspect of the globe they wish to explore; students of Leigh Academy Rainham will leave us as global citizens already feeling they have travelled the world.

It is the vision of both the academy, and Leigh Academies Trust, to possess a Digital Levels score of 4 by 2025 with technology not being used for technology's sake but being implemented in lessons through a meticulously planned approach to ensure its use is highly pertinent, varied and creative. Technology use will enhance the learning and progress students make as they journey through the curriculum, supplementing their learning with development of their digital skills and digital literacy.

‘...Technology keeps moving forward, which makes it easier for the artists to tell their stories and paint the pictures they want.’

George Lucas

# Our Colleges

‘The school puts pupils’ welfare and well-being at the forefront of its work. Pupils are taught about staying healthy, managing risk and healthy relationships.’

Ofsted, February 2024

The academy is organised into 3 colleges - Kingsley, Angelou and Turing. Each college is situated on its own floor and provides pastoral care to 60 pupils from each year group, led by the Head of College and Director of Pastoral, with its own Student Services team. Students are placed in mixed ability form groups and have dedicated form time each day where they follow our pastoral curriculum. All students, regardless of college, access the same academic and pastoral curriculum across the academy but go to their college areas for their form time and to access Student Services.

Leigh Academy Rainham actively encourages the competitive element of inter-college competitions through termly events based linked to all aspects of academy life. They are named after pioneers who aspired to achieve great things, irrespective of barriers, linked to the subject disciplines in their college.



‘Those who can imagine anything, can create the impossible.’

Alan Turing

Alan Turing was an English mathematician, computer scientist, philosopher, and theoretical biologist. Born in London and a fellow of Cambridge University, Turing was highly influential in the development of theoretical computer science, providing a formalisation of the concepts of algorithm and computation with the Turing machine. Turing played a crucial role in cracking intercepted coded messages that enabled the Allies to defeat the Nazis in World War II. He faced significant challenges, being criminalised as a homosexual, with much of his work going unrecognised until today. The disciplines linked to Turing College are Maths, Science and IT.



Mary Henrietta Kingsley was a Victorian pioneer and explorer who set out alone to explore West Africa to pursue her anthropological interests. In her written works she describes her unaccompanied treks through dangerous jungles, encounters with deadly animals and fascination with the African culture, language and botany. The disciplines linked to Kingsley College include Humanities and Languages.

‘If you’re always trying to be normal you will never know how amazing you can be.’

Maya Angelou



Maya Angelou was an acclaimed black American poet, storyteller, activist and autobiographer from Missouri. Despite experiencing a series of harrowing events in her childhood, she overcame her own fears and anxieties to flourish, developing a broad career that included writing, singing, dancing, acting and composing. The disciplines linked to Angelou College include the Arts and Literature.



# Academy life

## Inclusivity

Leigh Academy Rainham is highly committed to encouraging equality, diversity and inclusion among our student and staff community, and eliminating any unlawful discrimination.

LEIGH learners and staff will be open-minded, respectful and tolerant of individuals from all sections of our society and in turn every individual will therefore feel like a valued community member who strives to achieve excellence. As a mainstream provision, we endeavour to design our curriculum to meet the needs of our learners with high quality, personalised support from the SEND and pastoral teams. The academy makes reasonable adjustments as part of our commitment to ensuring that targeted support, interventions and approaches to learning are implemented to accelerate progress of all students.

## Diversity

Diversity is valued as a rich resource, which supports the learning of all. The academy recognises every student's right to a broad, balanced, and challenging curriculum, which is reflective of our local community and exposes them to vibrant cultures from around the world.

## Uniform

A smart appearance is an increasingly important aspect of modern life as it does help a person to display an air of self-confidence and a sense of respect. The academy aims to prepare students for a successful life and so an emphasis on taking pride in one's own appearance is an essential part of the educational process. The academy has a strict uniform policy which helps to enhance the purposeful and successful climate of the academy. Our uniform policy demands professionalism and ensures safety which also ensures that students are fully focused on learning as opposed to other distractions.

The Academy Uniform and Equipment Policy also creates a unity of spirit where there is no distinction between students in terms of wealth or background and supports our belief that personal appearance does affect standards of behaviour and therefore academic performance.

## Transition Programme

We work in partnership with our local primary schools to ensure that the year 6 into 7 transition process is high quality, preparing our new students for a successful start in September. We aim to ensure the transition day provides students with the experiences and opportunities that will build their confidence in making the leap from the primary to secondary phase. We provide transition resources and guidance to both parents and students so that they arrive in September equipped with the tools and knowledge to settle into academy life.



# Further INFORMATION

Leigh Academy Rainham

Find all the information you need on our website:

[Leigh Academy Rainham](#)



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**LEIGH** Education for a better world  
Academies Trust

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