THE HERMITAGE ACADEMY, CHESTER-LE-STREET

**Welcome to The Hermitage Academy**

In the locality, the Academy enjoys a well-founded reputation for continuous improvement, high outcomes and expectations, and a strong sense of achievement for all learners.

The School was invited in June 2010 to convert to Academy Status in the first round of ‘Outstanding’ school conversions and officially converted to The Hermitage Academy on 1st April 2011.

Becoming an Academy has brought about significant opportunities for our Academy. We have developed our curriculum in a manner which reflects our academy’s aspirations, our strengths and the needs of young people as they move into adult citizenship in the 21st century.

Our students have a wide range of needs and abilities and the Academy is committed to provide a safe environment where outstanding teaching is encouraged to enable students to achieve their very best. Our academy building is periodically refurbished and maintained to provide a comfortable learning environment where students want to learn and consequently, attendance figures are high. The academy is well oversubscribed, yet the intake is truly comprehensive which is reflected in its growing 11–19 population of 1133 students. All employees at the academy enjoy the privilege of working with our students.

The Academy’s Leadership Team consists of the Principal, two Vice Principals and five Assistant Vice Principals. We have a stable and highly qualified teaching staff of 82(fte). They are deployed on a subject department basis led by respective Leaders and Managers of Departments. Directors of Achievement manage the progress and welfare of students in a horizontal year team structure supported by Year Managers. Personal professional development is strong within the academy and all staff have a direct line manager to advise and support career opportunities.

The Academy became a Teaching School in March 2013 and we have embraced the challenges and opportunities it provides for all our staff. The Specialist Schools and Academies Trust have identified us as one of their High Performing Specialist Schools with Leading Edge status. We are involved with a range of development activities with other schools, a nearby College of Further Education and work based providers that promote innovation and collaboration enabling students to access additional vocational options.

Applicants are welcome to visit our Academy prior to interview. To arrange a visit, please contact Mr S J Barnes, Assistant Vice Principal (Telephone: Direct Line: 0191 3893383 or Main Academy No: 0191 3887161).

## Chester–Le–Street Information

For those of you who do not know the area, Chester–Le–Street is a large market town with a strong sense of community, conveniently situated between the contrasting cities of Newcastle (11 miles) and Durham (6 miles). Communications are excellent and areas of outstanding countryside in West Durham and Northumberland are within easy reach. A wide choice of places to live is available, with lifestyles to accommodate all tastes.