



# THE FERNWOOD SCHOOL

## Information for Candidates

### Background to Fernwood School

The Fernwood School converted to Academy status in May 2011. It was judged by OFSTED as 'outstanding' in all categories in April 2012. It serves a mixed social catchment on the outskirts of Nottingham City. The school has an excellent reputation for high standards of achievement, care and discipline and is oversubscribed annually by over 300 applicants. The school will be expanding from 1050 to 1500 students by 2024.

Fernwood is a genuinely comprehensive school combining a broad range of cultures, faiths, abilities and social backgrounds into a strong cohesive community. Approximately 47% of students come from ethnic minority backgrounds, 25.5% have English as a second language, 15% are on the SEN register and 23.4% are entitled to free school meals.

The school has been awarded Leading Edge status for many years, and we have strong partnerships with other city schools playing a leading role in developing and sharing good practice through the Leading Edge programme.

With the expansion of the school, a £4 million building project will provide further facilities for science, sport, a new multipurpose school hall and additional classrooms and associated learning facilities. We have recently completed building works to provide a state of the art library and purpose built facilities to support the Inclusion Team. The school also enjoy excellent ICT facilities providing all departments with access to interactive whiteboards, class sets of laptops and notebooks, alongside 8 well equipped ICT suites.

### School Ethos

Staff, students and parents are very proud of their school. There is a strong sense of commitment to the school's vision which is reflected in high levels of participation and hard work by all. Relationships between students and staff are very positive. High expectations for achievement and behaviour underpin all aspects of school life. Visitors to the school frequently comment on the respect, courtesy and good manners of students as well as the very friendly welcoming atmosphere. This ethos is achieved through a huge amount of hard work on the part of all staff, a consistent and rigorous approach to discipline as well as a collective emphasis on courtesy care and support for all.

### Achievement

Fernwood is very ambitious for all students and the drive to continue to raise the bar is reflected in an ongoing upward trend in results placing the school comfortably inside the upper quartile for all measures. Our results continue the trend for Sig+ in most Raise Online categories. We continue to build capacity for the future by placing a strong emphasis on the quality of teaching and learning and developing personalisation and inclusion strategies.

### Curriculum

We are proud of our curriculum which continues to evolve as we embrace change and development. We provide a broad and balanced curriculum based around nine areas of experience: English, maths, science, art design & technology, languages, humanities, expressive arts, sport and vocational education supported by a foundation learning curriculum for identified students at KS4. There is a strong emphasis on developing cross curricular and interpersonal skills as well as teamwork and self awareness in both the academic and pastoral curriculum.