



Pleckgate
HIGH SCHOOL

Year 8

Curriculum Information



Aspire and Believe, Act and Succeed

Welcome

Welcome to Pleckgate High School, we hope that this prospectus will give you more information about our school, our staff and the experiences of our pupils.

Pleckgate is a thriving, successful secondary school that is dedicated to providing the best educational experience and opportunities for all. Our staff are committed to working successfully together to achieve our aims of Aspire and Believe, Act and Succeed.

At the heart of this commitment is high quality teaching and learning and achievement for all.



We want all our pupils to be safe, happy and successful, and for parents and carers to know that we will help your children develop into caring, responsible and confident young people.

Pleckgate High School is a successful and oversubscribed school that is part of the Education Partnership Trust (EPT). We share the principles of high expectations, a commitment to raising standards and improving opportunities as well as a relentless drive for continuous improvement. We look forward to sharing our values with you at our open events.

We would encourage parents, carers and children to visit our school, meet our staff, pupils and senior leadership team to ask questions about our values, expectations and ambition for your child. We look forward to working together in partnership to make your child's experience at Pleckgate a happy and successful one. In the meantime, please visit our school website **www.pleckgate.com** and find out more about our school.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'A. M. McGinty'.

Aishling McGinty
Head of School

The school day routine

The timetable for school is as follows:

7.30am	Breakfast Club
8.20am	Arrive to school
8.30am	Registration and Tutor time/Assembly
8.50am	Period 1
9.50am	Period 2
10.50am	Break
11.10am	Period 3
12.10pm	Period 4
1.10pm	Lunch
1.40pm	Period 5
3.00pm	End of school

Aims of the Year 8 Curriculum

Confidence building

As your child has completed their first year at Pleckgate, they are now familiar with the regular routines and systems in place at school and can begin to flourish and gain experience in other aspects of school life.

Whether it be our extensive charity work, numerous educational visits or our partnerships with other local schools and colleges, you can be assured that your child will receive a well-rounded education that extends well beyond the classroom.



Reading School



All pupils have access to our online reading platform myon.co.uk which offers a range of fiction and nonfiction texts to suit all interests and abilities.

We encourage pupils to read widely and regularly and we offer a well-resourced library that pupils can access at break and lunchtime, as well as after school.

We also encourage parents to read regularly with their child as we know that a child who reads well makes excellent academic progress in all subject areas.

Specific development of numeracy and literacy

We have a well organised team in both the English and mathematics departments, who have resources and strategies in place to support your child to catch up in both literacy and numeracy.

This support is offered to your child in addition to their regular curriculum and has proven success at Pleckgate. We offer this support to pupils in Year 7 but for those who require additional support, this one to one catch up is offered for pupils in Year 8 so they can continue to make progress in all subjects.

Aims of the Year 8 Curriculum

High Expectations

We expect Year 8 pupils at Pleckgate to work consistently hard and insist that they produce classwork and homework of the highest possible quality. Ofsted commented on the excellent progress pupils make at Pleckgate and the 'very high expectations teachers have' ensures that pupils and staff work successfully together to allow each child to achieve their full potential.



Personal, Social, Health and Emotional Wellbeing

Pupils' well-being is very important to us; pupils are supported by a strong pastoral team who know your child very well and are able to support them with any difficulties they may face both academically and pastorally. Pupils have weekly assemblies and daily tutor time, where they have the opportunity to discuss, share ideas and ask questions with members of staff they know well.

Enrichment Days



At Pleckgate High School, all Year 8 pupils will take part in Enrichment Experiences.

These are whole days when pupils are taken off their traditional timetable and give opportunities to promote self-esteem, leadership and responsibility.

Pupils also work with local colleges, employers and other schools to have meaningful interactions to help them develop confidence and provide advice and guidance about their future steps.

As part of our personal careers, advice and guidance programme, pupils in Year 8 take part in employer visits so that they can learn about the world of work and a range of different industries.

Aims of the Year 8 Curriculum

RSE Curriculum

RSE stands for Relationships and Sex Education; it is now compulsory for schools to deliver this new curriculum although parents have the right to withdraw their child, if they wish from the sex education aspects. However our staff have the correct training and experience to deliver the information they need to allow them to develop healthy and safe relationships.



Homework

We are grateful to parents and carers who check and monitor the home learning of pupils.

We provide each child with a 1:1 learning device so they can record homework through Google Classroom.

Subject	Homework information
English	Monday and Wednesday
Maths	Monday and Tuesday
Science	Once a week
MFL	Once a week
Humanities	Once a week
Technology	Once a fortnight
Music	Once a fortnight
Art	Two projects per half term

Parents can check this daily so that they are aware of homework that has been set.

It is important that, as parents, you encourage your child to complete any homework set in school.

Homework teaches your child to work independently whilst allowing them to review and practice work that has been covered in class.

It helps your child develop positive study skills that will serve him or her well throughout life.

At Pleckgate we recommend that Year 8 pupils are given up to 30 minutes of homework per subject, per week.

Subjects studied

Pupils are organised into two academic bands. P and Q are then taught within these sets. Codes are used for class sets, for example 8p/En1 is the top set in P band for English, 8q/Ma5 is the bottom set in Q band for maths. All lessons are taught for 60 minutes.

Subject	Lessons per fortnight	Number of Groups
Mathematics	8 x 1 hour lessons	10
English	8 x 1 hour lessons	10
Science	6 x 1 hour lessons	10
Art	2 x 1 hour lessons	12
Music	2 x 1 hour lessons	12
Religious Studies	2 x 1 hour lessons	10
History	4 x 1 hour lessons	10
PE	4 x 1 hour lessons	10
Geography	4 x 1 hour lessons	10
Technology	2 x 1 hour lessons	12
MFL	4 x 1 hour lessons	10
Computing	2 x 1 hour lessons	10
PSHE	1 x 1 hour lesson	10

Target setting & reports

Target setting for pupils is based on knowledge about expected rates of progress and data for each individual child. Teachers monitor progress carefully against these targets and plan lessons accordingly to ensure sufficient progress for all pupils regardless of their starting points in school.

Written and verbal feedback should usually include comments about what a pupils has done well and what they need to consider in order to make good progress. Parents are informed of progress against their child's targets in our termly school reports. It is important to remember that children will progress at different rates and a huge range of factors influence this rate of progress.



When your child joined us in Year 7, we used CAT tests, cognitive ability tests to assess the potential of each pupil and place them into an appropriate set. Setting is reviewed regularly and pupil assessment information is used as part of this process.

Subject teachers review pupils targets regularly. If a pupil is making excellent progress, the target will be revised upwards. When pupils do not meet their target in a number of subjects we need to explore the reasons why.

There are a range of support strategies that we will employ to try to ensure individual pupils make good progress, and it is in these circumstances that the partnership between parents and school is most important.

Every pupils at Pleckgate is encouraged to have ambitious goals and we remain committed to the pursuit of outstanding teaching and learning alongside the highest possible academic standards.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Your child spends more time at school than anywhere else except home. Schools can have a major effect on children's health.

Schools can teach children about health and promote healthy behaviours. Physical education classes give children a chance to get exercise. At Pleckgate we take this further through our bespoke Youth Sports Trust programme and our extensive extra-curricular offers.



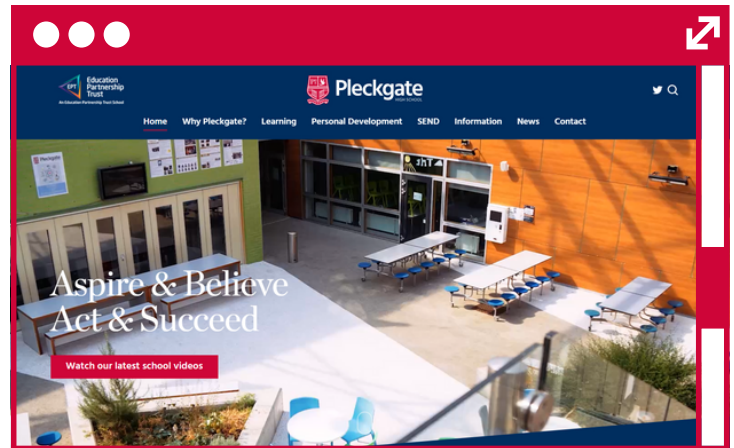
After school clubs

Monday – Friday
3.00pm – 4.00pm

Support & feedback

At Pleckgate High School we understand how important it is to ensure that Parents and Carers can be provided with all the information they need to help their children with their learning and development.

Our school website has a wealth of information regarding curriculum, pastoral care, school policies and who to contact for specific information.



Feedback

We hope that you have found this booklet informative. We are always open to new suggestions so if you do have any further ideas for information to be included within the booklet please do not hesitate to get in touch by emailing the school via **info@pleckgate.com**



Contact us

Get in touch:



info@pleckgate.com



01254 249134



www.pleckgate.com



Pleckgate High School
Pleckgate Road
Blackburn
BB1 8QA

