



Prospectus 2022-2023

Respect. Aspire. Believe. Commit.

www.decschool.co.uk



CONTENTS

- 01. Matrix Academy Trust
- 02. Welcome
- 04. Curriculum
- 06. Pastoral Care
- 08. Wider Curriculum
- 12. Post-16
- 14. Admission Arrangements
- 17. Safeguarding

We respect and accept everyone

We live within the law and our school rules

ABOUT MATRIX ACADEMY TRUST

Matrix Academy Trust is a family of schools serving different communities in the Midlands. Whilst our schools are different, they share the same old fashioned values of respect and self-discipline. Our vision is for all our Academies within the Trust to be outstanding and to ensure that every child leaves with employability skills and the opportunity of accessing higher education. Each Academy has their own Headteacher and Parent Advisory Forum which is the link between the parents, the school and the Trust. The Trustees sit on the Trust Board which is the decision making group. The Trust is committed to improving the life chances of all pupils and refuses to accept deprivation as an excuse for underachievement.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

I am delighted that you are considering Dame Elizabeth Cadbury as the school of choice for your child. This prospectus will give you a flavour of what Dame Elizabeth can offer your child. We hope that you share our vision and have the same high expectations, traditional values and ambition for your child. Whichever school you choose I wish your child every success in their secondary education.

Dame Mo Brennan

MATRIX BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mr Jeremy Bench
Dame Maureen Brennan
Mr Stephen Smith
Dr Deborah Park
Mr Stephen White
Sir Mark Aspinall
Mrs Deborah Williams
Mr Adam Heath

Providing
Support | **Sharing
Excellence**





**“Small School.
Big Heart.”**

**It is my privilege as Headteacher
of Dame Elizabeth Cadbury School
to welcome you to our school.**

Committed and talented staff, delightful young people and supportive trustees make this a vibrant and inspiring place to learn. With a ‘no excuses culture and caring environment, pupils are challenged to make excellent progress and achieve their best.

My vision is for each and every young person who attends this school to have the best educational experience and achieve excellent results that allows them to proceed into adulthood as confident, well-qualified young people, with a strong sense of self-discipline and purpose.

Our school is a good school where traditional values are important: discipline, uniform, courtesy, good manners and mutual respect underpin day to day life for pupils, parents and staff.

At Dame Elizabeth Cadbury we respect, aspire, believe and commit; these are our values, these are our behaviours.

Ms J Newsome
Headteacher





Curriculum

We are incredibly proud of the curriculum at Dame Elizabeth Cadbury because it offers excitingly rich, broad and balanced pathways of study for our pupils whilst providing exceptional levels of challenge and rigour. You can find out more about our subject offer on the school website.

Our inspirational classroom teachers carefully deliver the curriculum in such a way that instils a curiosity and love of learning in our pupils that serves them throughout their school life and beyond.

At every stage, our pupils are supported and provided with individual guidance in order to choose an ambitious pathway that is suitable for life beyond school. Our curriculum exploits opportunities to discuss and research careers in a myriad of different settings and subjects because we believe children should be provided with meaningful tools in order to make decisions about their adult life.



Our pupils are well prepared for **the real world** with our excellent curriculum.

Whilst academic results are important, and are exceptional at our school, they are one of many pieces of the jigsaw puzzle that build up to form components of a child at our school. We recognise the importance of designing a wider curriculum built upon the core principles of instilling ambition, resilience, independence and self-belief; skills that result in improved life chances for our pupils.

Our school has a consistent approach to planning the curriculum in all subjects. The following ingredients are our non-negotiable elements of curriculum planning:

1. Detailed and sequential planning of topics over the long term (i.e. 5 years). We call this our Long Term Plan.
2. Adaptable planning of topics to provide pupils with the optimum route through their learning journey. We call this our Medium Term Plan.
3. Exceptionally detailed short term planning, in order to execute the best possible learning opportunities for our pupils. We call this our Short Term Planning.

Further to this, our curriculum is enriched by a multitude of extra-curricular activities and the opportunities we create for our students to complete their Pupil Pledge.



Pastoral Care

Exeter Eagles

**'Flying
High.'**

Durham Phoenix

**'Always
Rising.'**

York Giants

**'Standing
Tall.'**

Warwick
**'Stronger
Together.'**

We have four Pastoral Houses here at Dame Elizabeth Cadbury, Durham, Exeter, York and Warwick House, with each pupil receiving strong pastoral support through high-quality form tutoring and their Head of House.

This enables all students to receive fantastic pastoral and academic support; supporting them to succeed and most importantly progress to be the very best.

In order to achieve their full potential, all students need to be in school and punctual in order to immerse themselves in quality teaching and learning. Those whose attendance is above 98% have greater chances of achieving the very best grades. We value this and always create opportunities to recognise and celebrate these successes by allowing pupils to build reward points in lessons.

Our pupils have already started to save their points towards a rewards trip to take place later in the year.

Pupils who work hard, attend well and behave in lessons make excellent progress developing the knowledge, skill and understanding set out in our curriculum. They are recognised through weekly assemblies, postcards home and a rewards trip to an event which can be selected by pupils through student council.

Pupils are also recognised for incremental points achieved throughout the year with specific milestone certificates and recognition badges that are presented to allow pupils to pin to their blazers.

Wider Curriculum



We offer fantastic opportunities for all pupils to find their creative side. Our creative tuition and concert programme allows our developing young performers to showcase an array of dance, musical, artistic, digital and dramatic talents. We compete at national competitions with dance, and have a thriving after-school programme of dance workshops for all levels and styles!

Sporting talent flourishes at Dame Elizabeth Cadbury, too. We have a highly successful basketball team and a range of sports clubs.

Our Sixth Form coaching programme allows Year 12 and 13 pupils to work with younger years in a range of sports, from boxing and netball to football.

Our Sixth Form students have worked in our local primary schools supporting programmes at Key Stage 1 and 2 in addition to their A Level and BTEC Studies.



EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

All pupils are encouraged to develop an interest and participate in the wide range of activities which take place outside the normal school timetable. We encourage all pupils to actively involve themselves in extra curricular activities. We expect every child to be involved in at least one extra curricular activity. A copy of the Extra Curricular Programme is available on the school's website. This programme is updated each term.

A wide range of clubs and activities take place after school. There are many sporting activities in which the pupils may participate and the school takes part in competitions with other local schools. Supervised Homework Clubs run every night from 3.00pm to 4.00pm. Summer Schools, Weekend trips and Holiday Schemes are also available.

As part of our wider curriculum offer pupils have the opportunity to take part in, the national 'UK Maths Challenge' (both the individual and team events), trips to a variety of universities including those in the Russell Group, external agency performances and workshops. We have strong ties to the Youth Parliament, where currently one of our students holds a role of responsibility, and we run an annual trip to the Houses of Parliament and the National Portrait Gallery.



We are **highly aspirational** for all our young people.



We aim to provide pupils with a wide range of life experiences to enrich their understanding of the wider world and broaden their aspirations.

Our enrichment programme and Pupil Pledge develops the wider child. We offer trips to the USA and Europe to enable pupils to soak up international culture. We offer trips to Italy to learn how to ski and visits to key landmarks around the UK that enable every child to have the chance to enjoy new experiences during their time with us. We also ensure educational visits align with the curriculum to bring learning to life.

We also offer the Duke of Edinburgh Award at Bronze and Silver levels to enable pupils to develop those life skills which stand them in good stead for a successful, independent adult life. Many primary schools visit us to enjoy sports events, practical science and technology lessons. Everyone from our community is welcome in our school.

As humans, we learn and grow from new experiences. To ensure all of our students have access to the widest range of learning opportunities, we provide an extensive range of extra-curricular opportunities.

From maths club to RAF Cadets (RAF CCF), from choir to our language lab, from badminton to rock band, our range of over 20 extra-curricular choices offer a truly broad education for all pupils.

RAF CADET FORCE

Pupils will have the opportunity to apply for a place at the beginning of Year 8. The cadet force will provide a wealth of varying activities including leadership and team-building activities, drill, parading, weapons training and an opportunity for all cadets to fly!



Combined Cadet Force



Sixth Form.

Belief and hard work are the keys to success at Dame Elizabeth Cadbury

Our Sixth Form is deliberately small and allows us to nurture our young people to achieve their full potential.

Our inclusive and caring approach to supporting students extends right through to Year 12 and 13. We offer an increasing suite of A Level courses as well as our highly successful BTECs.

Our students are able to study tailored programmes which are academic or combine academic and vocational learning which prepares them well for progression to employment or university.

Dame Elizabeth Cadbury Sixth Form students make far better progress than their peers nationally – all pupils meet or exceed target grades. We are proud that in 2019, 100% of pupils who applied to university secured places on undergraduate programmes at institutions right across the country or progressed successfully into the chosen employment sector.

All students follow a comprehensive PSHE course that is designed to explore careers, health, apprenticeships, university applications, current affairs, revision and wider reading skills, matters of citizenship, personal education and mental health.

We offer close pastoral support to all of our students to ensure that they perform to the best of their ability and reach the universities and higher apprenticeships of their dreams. Outstanding university guidance enables students to select the most appropriate pathway.

All Sixth Form students are expected to wear business suits. Students have previously progressed to a variety of undergraduate courses ranging from Business and Economics to Medicine and Biomedical Science. We have strong relationships with many local universities and support pupils in making well informed decisions.





Admission Arrangements

The number of intended admissions in September 2022 will be 130. Where applications for admission exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied:

1. Children in Public Care (looked after children) and previously looked after children.

Definition: children who are in the care of the local authority or provided with accommodation by the local authority. Previously looked after children who ceased to be looked after because they were adopted or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order.

2. Where a child has an older sibling currently attending the school when the application is made and who will be still attending the school at the proposed admission date.

Pupils will be admitted at the age of 11 years without reference to **ability, aptitude, race or religion.**

Definition: a child who resides at the same address as the child for whom a place is being requested and is one of the following:

- A brother or sister sharing the same parents
- Half brother or sister sharing one common parent
- Step brother or sister (i.e. related by parent's marriage)
- Any other child for whom it can be demonstrated that he or she is residing permanently at the same address (e.g. under the terms of a residency order).

3. Children of Staff employed at Dame Elizabeth where a member of staff has been employed at the academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admissions is made/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage/or the member of staff has been seconded to support other schools within the Matrix Academy Trust.

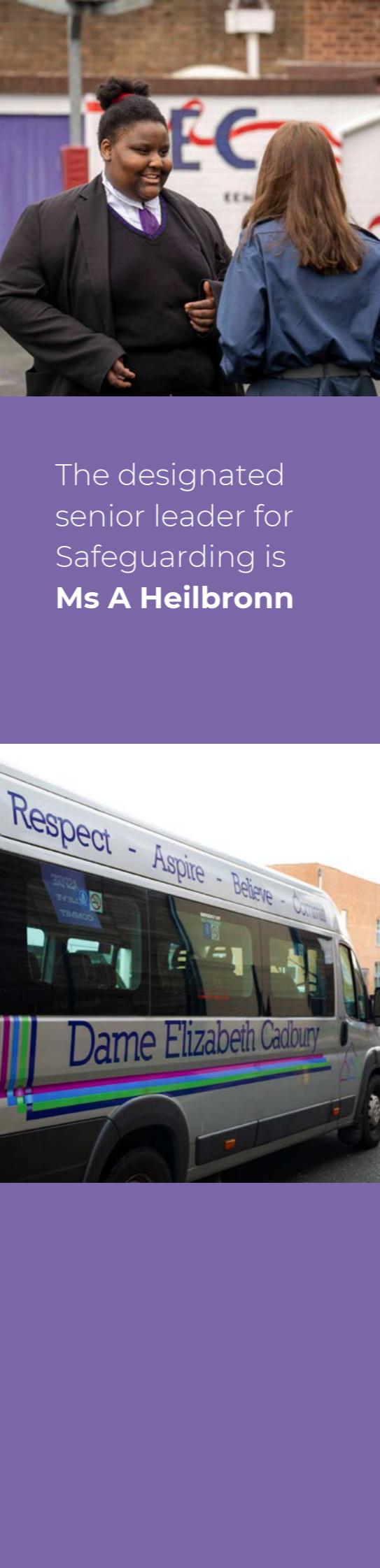
4. Children who live nearest to the school. Distance between home and school will be a straight line measurement from the front door of the pupil's residence to the front gates of the school on the drive leading to the school's main entrance doors and reception. The Local authority uses a computerized system, which measures all distances in metres. Ordnance Survey supply the co-ordinates that are used to plot an applicant's home address within this system.

Applications for in-year admission (age groups other than the normal year of entry) must be made directly to the school.

Sixth Form Admissions information can be found on the school website.



Safeguarding



The designated senior leader for Safeguarding is
Ms A Heilbronn

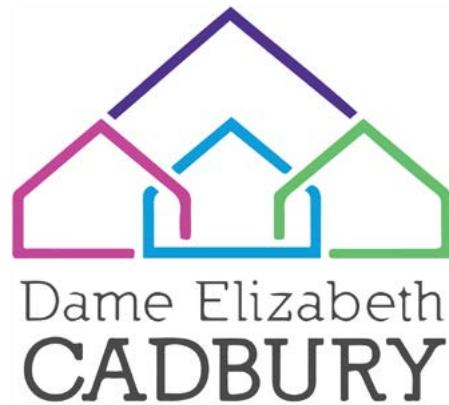


Dame Elizabeth Cadbury School is committed to promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. DECS fully recognises its responsibilities for safeguarding and child protection. Our policy and procedures apply to all staff, governors and those visiting the school.

- Ensuring we practice safer recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with children.
- Raising awareness of child protection issues and working on the prevention of abuse, through the teaching and pastoral support offered to students.
- Following procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases of abuse.
- Supporting pupils who are at risk or may have been abused.
- Establishing a safe environment in which children can learn and develop.

If there are any concerns that a pupil may be at risk of abuse or neglect, in almost all circumstances we will talk to our parents/carers about our concerns and we will also explain if we need to refer our concerns to outside agencies.

We will inform parents/carers if we need to make a referral, but in some circumstances we may need to make the referral without consulting. We will only do this if we genuinely believe that this is the best way to protect a pupil and the fact that we did not have consent from a parent/carer to the referral will be recorded.



Respect. Aspire. Believe. Commit.

