



Prospectus

2024/2025

INVICTUS

Education Trust

Welcome to our School



The motto of 'Aspire and Achieve' underpins all aspects of life at Leasowes; we are an ambitious and hard-working academy committed to excellence. To 'Aspire' is to direct our students' hopes and ambitions towards achieving their highest academic results and fulfilment of potential. To 'Achieve' is to successfully bring about the end results of that aspiration through their hard work, effort, skill and courage. As a community we work together to our ultimate shared desire; to be an outstanding school within a multi Academy Trust that is oversubscribed in the local community.

Our aim is to help each and every student to understand and reach their potential by offering an impressive range of opportunities and approaches to learning, supported by a caring and committed pastoral team, dedicated to the health, emotional wellbeing and personal development of each and every individual.

We are a school committed to providing a rigorous academic curriculum where students gain knowledge, skills and understanding through outstanding teaching. Our curriculum provides breadth across all subjects, including the arts, technology, and languages. Reading underpins the curriculum where everyone will follow a whole school strategy to aid students with comprehension and literacy skills across all subjects. This will be done through Accelerated Reading in years 7 and 8, as well as other specialised subject and guided reading during form time throughout the school. Leasowes' curriculum supports the needs of all; students from year 7 are taught in a mix of form groups and ability based groups, with emphasis on progress and achievement, but no child is overlooked or undervalued in our desire to Aspire and Achieve.

At Leasowes each student is challenged to bring more to their education than a lesson by lesson experience. The range of activities offered to students is varied, with extra curricular clubs available for all. The school has daily sporting activities, as well as opportunities to represent the school in the traditional teams. Every year the Arts team work with our students in the school production and they have the opportunity to take a lead part in the show, or be a member of the chorus. Many of our students also work on the lighting, sound and are the back stage crew. It is a complete team effort, and again, shows the importance and value that the school places in its work outside of the classroom as well as within it. There is a growing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) club which has been a successful award winner in both national

and regional competitions. This is now being enhanced by residential experiences at RAF Cosford. Whatever the need or interest of the student, we believe that there will be something to challenge, inspire or motivate them at Leasowes.

The school is a happy and caring environment which celebrates achievement and nurtures. Our pastoral team includes form tutors for each child, a Head of Year for each year group, pastoral support managers who work daily with all children, an attendance officer, and a nurse. The work that is undertaken by them encompasses safeguarding the children in our care, and supports them throughout their time with us, providing them with the skills and knowledge to be resilient and thrive in the future. This is further enhanced with the School Health Team being based in the school and supports the education of our Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship programme, as well as meeting individual needs of children and families. This is again supported by an active support network of parents led by one of our Senior Leadership Team.

Since September 2022 the school have worked closely with the Grace Foundation, a Christian charity who have provided further resource to the school and its community with a full time Ethos Worker and part time Youth Worker and Family Support Worker. These then link and work closely with the strength of the pastoral team, giving added quality to the support of the school.

In December 2016, the school became an Academy and joined the Invictus Education Trust. With the collaboration of seven schools, the mission is to raise standards and this is already evidenced by increased numbers of children wishing to attend an Invictus school. Our own school has now been oversubscribed in year 7 for seven consecutive years, with over 230 new starters in September 2023. The opportunities provided for the children include performance at festivals and concert halls across the country. The joint 6th form, Invictus 6th allows for a base in each school so that students, although not necessarily taught directly at the school, are still guaranteed the support provided, as well as the challenge of being taught by the best teachers across the trust, including our own moving across sites. There has been collaboration around sports, which includes termly 'Invictus Games', schools competing against each other, visits to high profile events including Wimbledon, and events planned every term in a variety of traditional and prestigious sports. As the trust develops over the next few years, all students at Leasowes will have the opportunity to participate in elite experiences.

In conclusion, Leasowes High School is a 'good' school (Ofsted September 2019). It is one that believes in providing an outstanding education for all its students, with a first class curriculum offer, an enhanced extra curricular programme, individual personal development, incorporating traditional values, which will allow all children to thrive in the future.

Leasowes High School GCSE Results

Leasowes High School are delighted to celebrate the successful achievement of their class of 2023.

Despite difficult circumstances over the last two years, the students have risen to the challenge and obtained excellent results.

A special mention to Joshan not only has he made the best progress, he has also achieved the best results overall. 5 grade 9s, 1 grade 8 and 3 grade 7s.

Notable achievements:

Tom: 3 grade 9s, 1 grade 8, 3 grade 7s and 2 grade 6s.

Summer: 3 grade 9s, 1 grade 8, 3 grade 7s, 2 grade 6s.

Matthew: 2 grade 9s, 2 grade 8s, 1 grade 7, 2 grade 6s and 2 grade 5s.

William: 4 grade 8s, 5 grade 7s.

Emma: 1 grade 9, 1 grade 8, 4 grade 7s, 3 grade 6s.

Other students of note who have made exceptional progress include:

Chrystal, Hana and Nafisa.

Special mention against adversity would be R'Mya.

The school continues to strive for better outcomes and this year 72% of students achieved a grade 4 or above in English, and 55% a grade 4 or above for mathematics.

GCSE Biology, GCSE Religious Studies, BTEC Sport, BTEC Dance and BTEC Music have made exceptional academic progress.

We are proud of all that they have achieved and wish them well in their future studies.

Headteacher,
Christiana Papadopoullos

Joining our School

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Transition

The care for your child begins long before they come to Leasowes. Our staff will visit Primary schools and work closely with colleagues to learn about the children coming to us, and what they have been learning. We encourage children from a wide range of primary schools to visit us in years 4, 5 and 6 so that transition to school can be made with confidence. These include the Arts Fest for Year 5 students and primary sports tournaments including football, netball and indoor sports.

Induction days take place in the summer term when children will spend time with us to familiarise themselves with the new school. Children are supported by our own prefects and peer mentors who can respond to all the questions that they really want the answers to and to help with the inevitable nerves of a new school. Some children may be given an

earlier induction morning if there is only a small number coming from their school to allow some new friendships to be made before the two day induction programme. At our special evening for parents and carers held directly after the induction days, there is time for the final exchange of information which should ensure that starting Leasowes High School is a smooth and well-organised process.

High Expectations and Reward

We recognise and reward hard work, positive attitudes, good attendance, behaviour and achievements, both in and out of school. This is done through an online system of positive and negative points called Inspire.

Inspire is available for all parents to view and to share in their achievements. The points are then celebrated with award assemblies, letters of recognition, achievement postcards and reward badges as well as termly events. All of these

areas must be of high excellence to be invited to be part of the Reward Trip or Year 11 Prom.

Each week the Headteacher includes two students per year group, in his 'Student of the Week'. These are students nominated by Heads of Year and teachers for being excellent students and going above and beyond.

Admissions

Although Leasowes adopts the policy of the Dudley Local Authority in relation to admissions. Questions regarding admissions to Leasowes can be found on the website or addressed to:

School Admissions Service
The Council House, Priory Road, Dudley,
West Midlands DY1 1HF

During the school's open weeks prospective parents are given tours of the school.



"The school cares about me and wants me to be the best I can be."

Leasowes Curriculum



The Leasowes curriculum is designed to meet the learning needs of all its students, providing appropriate experiences and qualifications to support the young person. At its heart is the curriculum being broad and balanced, operating a three year Key Stage 3 and a two year Key Stage 4, with GCSE and Level 2 courses beginning in year 10.

From Year 7 students are taught in a mix of form groups and ability based groups across English, Maths and Science with a clear focus on progress and achievement. All students will be taught English, Maths and Science, French or Spanish, Geography, History, Religious Education, Art, Music, Dance, Drama, Textiles, Food Technology, Graphic Products, Resistant Materials, ICT and Physical Education.

The data that is provided to the school from Key Stage 2 helps us to ensure that students receive appropriate teaching materials and methodologies. Those with additional needs are supported both in lessons and in the Learning Development Centre, where specialist help is available. Information about Special Educational Needs and Disability can be found on the school website. Our policies cover arrangements for admission of students with disabilities; details of steps taken to prevent disabled students being treated less favourably than other students; details of existing facilities to assist access to the school by students with disabilities; the accessibility plan.

A feature of Leasowes is the development of reading programmes, supporting and helping students to improve their reading, literacy and wider knowledge. This is underpinned through a whole school strategy on reading, which includes the use of Accelerated Reading in years 7 and 8.

A number of awards are given throughout the year celebrating the amount of words that have been read including the 'Million Word Club', encouraging students to become regular readers.

Students will be given a target grade as they join the school based on their Key Stage 2 starting points. Progress against the target will be measured regularly throughout their school time from Year 7 to Year 11. In some areas, students' targets may be set higher, especially where a student is gifted and talented, furthering the schools desire to challenge them with our high expectations.

Our PSHCE (Physical, Social, Health, and Citizenship Education) covers an extensive and comprehensive programme. It addresses key health related education including issues around mental health and wellbeing as well as substance abuse. It also looks at Online Safety and aspects of safeguarding as well as sex education. The programme also includes up to date education on RSE. Before the sex education course begins, parents can exercise their right to withdraw their child at this time. Again this can be found on the school website.

Religious Education is taught throughout the school in both Key Stage 3 and 4 in Humanities, and the moral and spiritual dimension is continued into the upper school curriculum as a weekly timetabled lesson for all. These are complemented with the opportunities to meet for collective worship where students from different faiths and communities can meet and learn morally and spiritually together.

No child is overlooked or undervalued as appropriate support is given to all students regardless of their starting point in the desire to *Aspire and Achieve*.

We aim to provide careers, skills and training advice and guidance for all our students. We have designed a careers programme based on the needs of the school. Our programme follows the Gatsby Career Benchmarks, which are the result of an international study to find the best practice in career guidance worldwide. Every year group follows a careers education and guidance programme which forms an essential part of the curriculum at each Key Stage. The aim is to raise aspirations and provide students with a better understanding of the pathways needed to take in order to achieve their goals.

Aspire

Leasowes High School's motto is 'Aspire and Achieve' and underpins all aspects of the school – both for its students and its staff. To aspire is to:

- Have a great ambition or ultimate goal
- Strive toward an end or condition
- Rise high and move upwards

The aims of the school are very simple indeed. We want every individual student to regard sec-ondary school as their next step in journeying to-wards personal achievement. We aim to provide the opportunities to make this happen both on an academic and a personal level. We want them to be challenged in forming their characteristics as a person in partnership with parents, carers and the wider community, to support them in fulfilling their aspirations.

Achieve

To 'achieve' is to gain by hard work or effort and to bring to a successful conclusion. This encompasses what Leasowes believes will be the pinnacle of students' aspirations. Students at Leasowes are rewarded for their achievements in school with achievement postcards, certificates, prizes for sustained effort and good work, excellent attendance, praiseworthy conduct, helpfulness and improvement. Students are awarded achievement badges which they wear on their blazers with pride. At the end of each week, students are nominated for Student of the Week by their Heads of Year.



“The opportunities given are possible because of the amazing staff who put so much time into helping the students reach their full potential.”

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Our school assemblies celebrate academic achievement, sporting prowess, artistic talent and attitude to learning. At the end of every school year the parents are invited to our School Achievement Celebration and are presented with an achievement booklet with their child's name and award printed in it. Our year 11 students attend a dedicated awards evening where they receive their final awards in all subjects, with special prizes for community, sport, arts and the top award of the Christina Edkins Award – given every year in recognition of the student who lost her life so tragically – for the student who fully embraces 'Aspire and Achieve' in everything they do.

School Aims

- To enable the learners in our school to learn.
- To prepare them for a life in which the world is constantly changing.
- To instil in them the desire for lifelong learning.
- To equip all our learners with the skills to set objectives and undertake tasks successfully.
- To encourage effective communication and social skills, tolerance for and celebration of differences, and care and respect for others.
- To enable everyone to build and maintain good relationships.



INVICTUS

Education Trust

Invictus Education Trust was created in March 2015 by a group of like-minded schools: Crestwood, Ellowes Hall Sports College, Kinver High and Wombourne High School. Two schools have since joined us, Leasowes High School in Autumn 2016 and Pedmore High School in September 2018. Rufford Primary School became the first primary school to join us in September 2021 further strengthening an already thriving Trust.

Collaboration across our Invictus schools is integral to us. We are now fortunate enough to be in a really strong position to have a range of educational settings across our Trust: primary, secondary, Sixth Form and Alternative Provision. Although our schools retain their identity, we have built a successful model from which we work closely together in order to learn from each other and share good practice. Our fundamental purpose for this is to ensure our students have the best educational experience possible during their time with us. Our students too also have regular opportunities to collaborate through joint learning experiences. This level of partnership makes us quite unique, in comparison to other Multi Local Academy Trusts, due to our locality and determination to be the best that we can be. Our innovative Invictus Sixth Form, which is open to everyone, is a perfect example of how both staff and students work together simultaneously. Invictus Sixth regularly appears at the top of league tables and leader boards for progress. All of this is made possible by our expert staff and the fact that we ensure all Invictus students are not only transported to their lessons by us free of charge but are also equipped with a free laptop and free text books for their studies, throughout their time with us.

Our Invictus Subject Directors are specialist expert leaders who work alongside Heads of Department, and their teams across all of our schools, in order to lead the curriculum and ensure our students receive a quality first education. This model also ensures consistency in learning and a wider support network for our teaching teams. The focus of the directors' work is very much linked to each individual school's context and needs, spanning from Early Years all the way through to Sixth Form! In addition to the curriculum, our Subject Directors also work hard to ensure our students receive fantastic experiences and opportunities.



FI in Schools Academy

national challenges with Invictus teams entering in different divisions. We were honoured to be invited to a 'Girls On Track UK' event, organised by Motorsport UK, at the Silverstone Museum.

In addition to this array of opportunities we are also proud to have the very best team of staff to ensure our students' education is at the very highest level. To ensure we keep abreast of local, national and even international research, training sessions for staff are organised, using expertise from both within our Trust and also using external organisations, if needed.

Our Invictus Sport ethos is 'Unconquerable in Sport'. Competition between our schools is tenacious, fierce but fair and when our schools come together to face other schools and Trusts we become formidable! As well as more traditional sports, our students have enjoyed access to sailing, scuba diving, golf, skeet shooting and tennis. Our students also have the opportunity to visit, and even play at times, at prestigious sporting venues such as Wimbledon and Premier League football stadiums.

Performing Arts is a huge priority for us throughout Invictus. It has been phenomenal to see the Performing Arts making a real comeback following the disruptions nationally in this arena. Again, we strive to ensure that collaboration is key across our schools and that our incredible talented musicians, dancers, singers and actors have the opportunity to perform across a number of platforms to further unlock and unleash their talent!



OUR SCHOOLS



OUR VALUES

Invictus Values

Our principles and standards of behaviour.

**Every day, in every way,
our students come first**

Our first and most important value.

Anything is possible

*We focus on the challenge to identify it,
our energy is spent finding a solution.*

Accountability

If it is to be, it is to be me.

Seek and seize opportunities

*We aim to deliver 'WOW' through
opportunities and experiences.*

**Focus on relationships
and all else will follow**

*Open, honest and empathic relationships
with clear and simple communication
are the foundations of our Trust.*

Start with the end in mind

*We identify our aspiration and put processes in
place to exceed expectations. We celebrate
our progress throughout the journey.*

Think collaboratively

*We always ask ourselves; can we
include more students, more of our team
or more of our schools in anything we do?*

Student Support

The support given to the students at Leasowes through our Student Support is exceptional. Each student will be given a form tutor as they enter the school. This is ably supported with a Head of Year and a team of nonteaching Pastoral Support Managers, an Attendance Officer and a dedicated, fully qualified School Nurse.

The most important person is the Form Tutor who will see each student daily, keeping a caring eye on academic progress and their general wellbeing. They will monitor attendance, uniform expectations and behaviour of students building in time to teach self-discipline, tolerance and social awareness. Where possible, the Form Tutors will remain with their forms for the five years of schooling. The Heads of Year will also follow their groups and add further guidance and support with monitoring of academic progress as well as maintaining high expectations in uniform, behaviour, attendance and punctuality.

The Pastoral Support Managers add value to the work of both the Form teacher and the Head of Year. They are not attached to a specific year group, but will work closely with students who may need a key worker, building relationships with parents, providing support groups in self-esteem and resilience and providing guidance when needed, in behaviour, attendance and wellbeing. Staff within the team are also

Mental Health First Aid trained, ensuring the students gain valuable and timely support where appropriate. All have a clear responsibility to ensuring our children are safeguarded.

The Attendance Officer is part of this wider team in school ensuring the registers are checked daily and that absences are recorded, but is also there to challenge where attendance maybe poor and work closely with families to improve, because poor attendance does impact on progress and attainment. The Attendance Officer will also refer families to the Education Support Service (statutory body for Dudley) if poor attendance to school continues or if holidays/leave of absence is taken in the school term (unless exceptional circumstances).

Having a School Nurse attached to the school gives confidence to parents and students. If students become ill during the day the school nurse holds the medical records and is fully qualified to assess the situation and take prompt action. She will inform parents immediately if she is concerned. It is vital that parents and carers supply us with up to date addresses and contact numbers in case of an emergency. From May 2022, the school have partnered with The Grace Foundation, a Christian charity, who work with the school and wider community to support the curriculum, mentoring as individuals and group work, as well as support the needs of families.

A full time Ethos leader and a part time Youth Worker and Family Support Worker develop the strong links already established by the school support team.

Our Greenhill Alternative Learning Campus, which is located on a separate site, provides an alternative location for students who struggle to maintain the standards of the main school site. There is a bespoke programme on offer to help them redefine their approach to learning and to support them to succeed. Greenhill have also developed a different provision with the support of both the school and trust with Revive. This supports students across the trust who may be experiencing different issues that affect their learning.

There is a developing chaplaincy team within the school where weekly, faith leaders from our local community will offer a listening ear and support to our students and staff. They will also support the assembly programme but closely follow school policies with safeguarding.

Students with special educational needs will be supported by our Additional Needs Team which consists of two teachers and nine teaching assistants. These work with students, parents and carers, and external services to ensure that students access education and achieve their potential.

The student support is there to ensure that every child thrives.



Student Leadership

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Education Trust



The school takes pride in ensuring that students are given opportunities to be leaders. Students can be members of a variety of leadership roles where they are able to share with teachers and senior leaders some of their concerns in the school - whether this is environment, fundraising or teaching learning. All groups meet regularly throughout the year and work collaboratively across the year groups. These groups include Aspire Leaders who have two representatives from each year group who have excellent attitude to learning, attendance and behaviour, who meet with the Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher, as well as the Head Boy and Girl and their Deputies. This was a new leadership team for the students that commenced in September 2021. Other new leadership groups included the Diversity Council and Wellbeing Council - these were ideas from the students are developed and supported by the staff in the

school. The Eco Council has already been well established for a number of years, and the Student Council has been developed into Year group councils so that more students can be involved in leadership.

A number of students are Peer Mentors; students who support our vulnerable students, those who may be struggling with worries and concerns from both in and out of school. They will be there to support the new students who arrive in year 7, with regular visits to their form groups supporting the transition.

Having leadership in curriculum areas is a further area for our students. They are invited to apply to be leaders in all subjects, meeting with the teachers to look at resources, run lunchtime activities and be their representatives at open evenings and other events in the school. With all of these

leadership opportunities, the students wear their badges with pride on the lapel of their blazer.

Our leaders throughout all year groups aspire to become our 'stripees'- our School Prefects, Deputy Head Girl and Boy and Head Girl and Boy. These student leaders are the highest representatives of the school and undertake duties, represent Leasowes at various events and look after guests to the school. They apply to become a prefect and undergo a stringent interview process where all aspects of their school career are taken into consideration from positive behaviour points, attendance, punctuality along with their commitment to extracurricular activities and the wider community. These are highly sought after, prestigious positions which showcase the students at their best in 'Aspiring and Achieving'.

“It is my privilege to be the Head Boy of Leasowes High School and to be a role model to the other students in the school, helping them reach their aspirations”

Unique Opportunities & *Elite Experiences*

Enrichment

Leasowes offers a wide range of enrichment activities. There is an expectation that all students participate in this, as it provides a commitment to the school where achievement and success become closely associated with enjoyment. There are regular trips and experiences to different countries. In previous years we have included ski trips, visit to Iceland, world war battlefields, as well as Paris and Barcelona through the Languages department.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) is a growing speciality of the school. There is a weekly club that the students can attend and they work in teams building and developing technology using the skills associated with STEM. This club is for all year groups where they develop skills and knowledge to participate in both RAF Championships, and ultimately the Formula 1 in Schools. As a school we have developed this strong element of enrichment that has now been shared across the trust with all schools being part of the FI in Schools Academy. We are UK regional champions

in Formula One in Schools competition for two consecutive years and in 2019 had two teams compete at the national event achieving awards against the top 15 schools in the country held at Airbus UK. They are also champions at the RAF STEM Glider Championships and regular winners at the Royal Aeronautical Society Stem Challenge. The area is flourishing and the students at Leasowes show skills and commitment working together.

Students show commitment and teamwork within the Physical Education department. There is a fitness suite which is named annually after a student who shows that commitment to the teams in the school. Teams will compete in the regular sports across Dudley, Worcestershire and Staffordshire. The Invictus Schools also compete in their own termly 'Invictus Games', and students also have the opportunity to be a member of the Invictus Teams – being the best in the 6 schools to compete in national competitions. There is also thriving Duke of Edinburgh Award group where students learn key skills and complete their Bronze and Silver Awards including the expeditions.

Every year the students at Leasowes have the opportunity to perform in the show, which in recent years has included Grease,

Beauty and the Beast, Peter Pan, Little Shop of Horrors and We Will Rock You. There are growing opportunities across Invictus with the Invictus Choir, Performing Arts Academy in the 6th form and Invictus Musician of the Year. Recently the Invictus Choir performed at the Symphony Hall and toured Germany in concert – opportunity that Leasowes students participated. Back in 2018, all schools within the Trust performed at the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre under professional lights and sounds with an orchestra with excerpts from their own school shows. Students have also performed in the Shakespeare in Schools. All the Arts subjects bring enormous pleasure to participants and audiences with dance, drama, music and art.

There is something for everyone - debating, board and strategy games, bike maintenance, cooking, film making are just a highlight of what is offered. For a child to Aspire and Achieve, it is fundamental that the learning in the classroom is supplemented with options out of it, and that if a child wants to further their learning in a specific area, the activity can be provided for it.



Welcome to *Invictus 6th Form*

Invictus Sixth Form brings together the very best teaching, learning and achievement from six successful schools; Crestwood, Ellowes Hall, Kinver, Leasowes, Pedmore and Wombourne.

We are committed to providing a high quality, forward looking and caring educational experience which enables all our students to fulfil their potential. We recognise and value achievement within all aspects of Sixth Form life, be it in an academic, sporting, creative, personal or social context and are keen to celebrate our students' many successes.

We offer a wide variety of advanced level courses and our small group sizes ensure that each student has the support and challenge needed to be successful. All students receive regular academic mentoring and pastoral support as well as support with careers and university applications. We have an extensive enrichment programme which complements our students' academic studies, providing them with opportunities to develop new skills, make new friends, gain additional qualifications and settle into Sixth Form life.

Each taught at campus within Invictus Sixth Form has its own sixth form area. We believe that this allows our students the freedom and independence to develop their own sense of identity and confidence as well as providing the support and challenge needed to ensure that they can meet the demands of Sixth Form study.

We have high expectations of our students in every sense. Studying at Invictus Sixth Form is demanding and advanced level work can be challenging as well as exciting, rewarding and fun. Students are expected to work independently, manage their own time and balance the many demands placed upon them. If you find such a prospect attractive it is likely that you will enjoy and gain enormously from becoming an Invictus Sixth Form student.

We welcome applications from Year 11 students within Ellowes Hall, Crestwood, Leasowes, Kinver, Pedmore and Wombourne High Schools as well as from other schools within Wolverhampton, Dudley, Stourbridge, Halesowen or further afield. After 5 successful, enjoyable years at your school we look forward to welcoming you to Invictus Sixth Form.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emily Morgan".

Emily Morgan
Director of Sixth Form

INVICTUS TH FORM





*Every day in every way
our students come first*

Anything is possible

Accountability

Seek and seize opportunities

*Focus on relationships
and all else will follow*

**Start with the
end in mind**

Think collaboratively