We are delighted to welcome and introduce you to Sidney Stringer Academy. We hope that through reading this prospectus you will learn more about what it means to be a student at the Academy and you will share our enthusiasm for the wide range of courses, outstanding teaching and excellent pastoral care that we have to offer.

Sidney Stringer Academy is a very successful school. Our curriculum is designed to simultaneously stretch gifted and talented students as well as support those with special needs. We have high standards for behaviour and learning and support every student to meet these expectations. We look forward to working in partnership with you, as parents, to ensure that your child has a happy and successful time at our Academy.

Following an outstanding Ofsted inspection in 2013, the Academy continues to be one of the leading schools in the country for pupil progress. Every year since the Academy opened, results have never been anything less than outstanding not only at GCSE level but also at Post 16.

In addition to this, we are proud to be the lead school of the Sidney Stringer Multi-Academy Trust. Being a part of this trust provides many opportunities for staff, students and parents alike. More importantly, though, it characterises our commitment to collaboration and improving outcomes for the young people in our care.

Sidney Stringer Academy continues to go from strength to strength and this is exemplified by our many recent awards. In 2017, the Academy won the regional finals for the achievement of our pupil premium students. In both 2017 and 2018, Sidney Stringer Academy received the Flagship award for Inclusion. The Academy was awarded a Department for Education Grant in 2017 to co-ordinate school improvement projects across a number of schools in Coventry. Sidney Stringer is also one of a small handful of schools to achieve the prestigious World Class Schools Quality Mark.

Claire Turpin
Head Teacher
Sidney Stringer Academy
Sidney Stringer opened in 1972 as the first custom-built urban community college and has always had a reputation for innovation. The school has successfully responded to the challenges and opportunities presented by the local area. From the outset there has been a strong sense that the community "owns" the school. Sidney Stringer has been designated a community college, a community technology college, a specialist school, an Academy and now the lead school for the Multi-Academy Trust. Throughout, it has been a school committed to serving its local communities. It is an inclusive school which celebrates diversity through creating a Sidney Stringer community. Local people are proud of their school and we are proud to be a part of our local community.

The Academy opened in September 2010 building on the excellent work of Sidney Stringer School. In 2014 the Sidney Stringer Multi Academy Trust was formed with four other schools in Coventry: Radford Primary Academy, Ernesford Grange Community Academy, Riverbank Academy and Sidney Stringer Primary Academy all work together with the goal of all five Academies being outstanding.

Sidney Stringer Academy caters for 1350 students aged 11-19 including a large sixth form. We are a happy and successful Academy delivering the very highest standards of education. We have a well-deserved reputation of meeting the needs of all of our pupils and supporting the students to make outstanding progress.

“I feel as though staff really know me well and help me to be the best I can be.”

Student Leadership Team
Sidney Stringer is a National Teaching School. This means that we have an important role in raising standards and take a lead in the recruitment and training of new entrants to the profession, identifying leadership potential and providing support for other schools. We work closely with the other Teaching School Alliances in Coventry.

Sidney Stringer Academy is the accredited provider for the Coventry SCITT (School Centred Initial Teacher Training) which recruits and trains primary and secondary trainees for Coventry. There are over 30 schools in the SCITT working together to train the next generation of teachers and supporting the recruitment of outstanding teachers to our school.

There is a high commitment to using new technology to raise standards. The school has excellent ICT facilities, with 8 ICT suites, class sets of iPads and all students have an opportunity to donate towards a Chromebook that they can use exclusively. The Academy operates its own Online Web Library to provide students with Academic resources for their studies. Moreover, every class in the Academy has its own Google Classroom to allow teachers to easily monitor the work of students and to share academic resources.
Our values

Our core values are respect, determination and integrity. We have very high aspirations for our students which enable them to achieve their full potential regardless of their background or starting point. We insist on the highest level of standards from students and all adults associated with the Academy. We provide a broad, flexible and highly personalised curriculum that extends beyond the school day with a wide range of enrichment activities available to students. Our curriculum is enhanced by the involvement of businesses and other partners and we encourage the active participation of students in the life of the Academy. The planning and delivery of innovative and creative learning, in state-of-the-art, inspiring buildings, using the best facilities and the latest resources mean that students leave with the qualifications, skills and attributes needed for success in their futures. We are a welcoming Academy which is at the heart of the community, trusted and used by it.

“Teaching at the school is of the highest quality and all needs of students, regardless of ability, are met effectively.”
Student Leadership Team
Expectations

We strive to make Sidney Stringer Academy a place where students and staff feel they belong and where each person works to promote the highest standards of behaviour and achievement and where students’ safety, security and well-being are paramount. Learning is most effective when students, families and school work together. Sidney Stringer Academy expects families to take an active and supportive role, working with us to ensure good progress is made by students. In the Academy, students hold positions of real responsibility across the year groups throughout.

A Head Girl and Head Boy lead our Student Leadership Team and there are a range of opportunities for student leadership including a team of Prefects and a Swanswell, Phoenix, Lanchester, Da Vinci and Jaguar House Council, Form Captains, Accelerated Reading Ambassadors and Digital Leaders. They help to review our Curriculum and involve the wider student body in contributing to the development of the school. The Student Leadership Team work with staff to ensure that all students feel safe, listened to and secure.

“Sidney Stringer Academy is one of the most dedicated and nurturing secondary schools to be a part of.”

Student Leadership Team
Students are offered a wide range of subjects with option choices starting in Year 9. The Academy gives equal value to vocational and academic courses at all levels. We ensure students have good access to both English Baccalaureate courses and a wide range of opportunities for applied learning.

Digital projectors, interactive whiteboards, wireless laptops and iPads are available for every classroom. Students have access to computers and Chromebooks to continue their learning independently outside of lessons.

Our resources and facilities are cutting edge. Enrichment through additional courses and activities before and after school, at weekends and in school holidays increases the range of opportunities and experiences available to students.

On leaving the Academy, we want each student to be able to lead a team and be a team member, demonstrate initiative and be enterprising, and be ready and willing to make a contribution to their communities.

“At a meeting with community leaders it was very clear that the school provides a network to ensure that all community provision can work together in a coherent and efficient way.”

Tony Evans
Inclusion Quality Mark Assessor
Each student in Years 7 to 11 is a member of one of five mixed-age Houses. Our Vertical Tutoring system allows students to work together to develop tolerance, trust and empathy.

Younger students are helped, guided and inspired by older students. Older students develop important leadership and social skills. Mixed-age tutor groups are led by a House Head and Assistant Principal who are supported by a House Assistant. Each of our tutor groups is led by a tutor and co-tutor with no more than 20 students in any group. Tutors and co-tutors mentor and support students to monitor progress, provide personal support, encourage high achievement and challenge underachievement as well as working with parents and carers.
Sidney Stringer Academy is an inclusive school which admits students with disabilities and Special Needs on an equal basis with other students. The Academy has lifts, access ramps and wheelchair facilities. All students have access to the full curriculum and all facilities. We have a large, skilled, experienced learning support team, an educational psychologist and a Family Outreach team to support students. We work in partnership with parents and carers who are kept closely informed about students’ progress. The Academy works in accordance with the Revised Code of Practice issued by the government in 2014. Students learning English as a new language receive specialist support to enable rapid integration into the life of the Academy and its curriculum. The Academy’s commitment to inclusion was confirmed by being recognised as an IQM Flagship School in 2017 and 2018.
Our students benefit from excellent facilities with beautiful design inside and outside, generous social space and excellent dining facilities in Restaurant 71 and the Cafe. The Enterprise and Innovation Centre, with its own Business Lounge, Catering and Hospitality suite and Conference Centre, is part of the RIBA Award winning building. The main building has a prayer room, a fitness studio, sports hall, gym/dance studio, lockers for each student, and outside facilities include state of the art full sized astro-turf, a traversing wall, a multi-use games area, a table tennis area, tennis and netball courts, 2 secure bike sheds and outside dining and sheltered areas.

Post 16 students have their own 16+ Centre. There is an open plan library with multi-media resources, 8 ICT rooms in addition to computers in all rooms and in informal breakout learning areas.
Ofsted has recognised that Sidney Stringer has an outstanding Sixth Form. In 16+, students continue to develop their independent learning skills, ensuring that they are equipped for the future challenges of university and the modern workplace. We continually expand the range of courses on offer at all levels. Students have access to sophisticated, "real world" facilities for vocational courses in the Enterprise and Innovation Centre. 16+ students receive extensive support, advice and guidance as they plan their routes into Higher Education, further training and education or employment. The 16+ Enrichment Programme develops independence and encourages in students a readiness to participate in the life of the school and wider community.

In 2018 the Academy opened a new dedicated 16+ centre which contains an outstanding study space for 16+ students, dedicated 16+ classrooms and a place for 16+ to eat together. Students at 16+ have access to their own 1:1 scheme to enable them to access a Chromebook for independent study and use in lessons.

In 2017 Science and Maths A Level results were rated as better than Eton (The Times & The Independent).

“All students are cared for, respected and are supported right from entry at year 7 to the final stages of their journey in 16+.”

Student Leadership Team
“Teaching and Learning is the cornerstone upon which the Academy has developed and sustained excellence in all respects... and there is strong conviction, passion and energy in the leadership team to drive the school forward. Progress of students is outstanding.”

Tony Evans, Inclusion Quality
Mark Assessor

“One of the top 100 non-selective state schools in the country for pupil progress.”

David Laws
Schools Minister

“This is an outstanding school.”

Ofsted