



Hertswood Academy

Aim High • Achieve Excellence

Cowley Hill, Borehamwood, Hertfordshire, WD6 5LG
T 020 8238 7200 | E admin@hertswoodacademy.org
www.hertswoodacademy.org | [f/hertswoodacademy](#) | [t/hertswooduk](#)
Headteacher Peter Gillett BSc (Hons), PGCE, NPQH, MBA

May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope you and your family are healthy and safe in these unprecedented times. We are very much looking forward to welcoming you to our thriving and happy learning-focused community in September 2021.

With our brand-new world-class academy building, a substantial number of applications were received for Year 7 and we want to congratulate you on securing a place. As you may be aware, in our last full inspection, OFSTED visited us in September 2019 and said that **"Hertswood Academy is a calm and pleasant place for pupils to learn."** They also reported that:

"Inspectors found pupils studying hard, whether in lessons or in the many study spaces available for pupils to use throughout the day. Pupils told us that they enjoy going to the school and appreciate the remarkable new buildings. They behave sensibly while moving between lessons and during break times. Sixth-form students told us that they chose Hertswood because staff and pupils care for each other well. Many parents reported to inspectors that staff 'go the extra mile' for pupils to ensure that they are happy and safe.

"School leaders and staff have what one parent called 'great belief' in their pupils' abilities to do great things in school and their adult lives. Many pupils told inspectors that staff encourage pupils to aim for extraordinary goals in life. As a result, many pupils take impressive next steps in their education and careers." (OFSTED: Sept 2019)

We have made many more advances in our provision as we have settled in our new accommodation and are strongly focused on students achieving a solid grounding in the core skills of English, mathematics and science. The creative and active curriculum demonstrated through our arts and sports faculties, combined with the clear focus on these core skills, is also a key feature of our Academy. Our personalised curriculum is geared towards students' individual aptitudes and skills with students set by ability in core subjects so that they receive appropriately tailored tuition. **To support your child's learning at Hertswood, I am pleased to confirm that each Year 7 student will be provided with a Chromebook which they will use to study at school and at home.**

There has been a huge rise in expectations at our academy during recent years and you will have heard a great deal of news in the media relating to our students' achievements and our contribution to community life. In particular, Sixth Formers are accepted to a record number of Russell Group Universities with a steep rise in 'unconditional' offers and students offered places at Oxford, Cambridge, Yale, LSE, Imperial College, UCL and many other world-class institutions.

Much more news can be found on our website at www.hertswoodacademy.org and www.facebook.com/HertswoodAcademy. In particular, our bi-weekly newsletter can be accessed at www.hertswoodacademy.org/information/hertsbeat. You can also view our 2020 Virtual Open Evening at www.hertswoodacademy.org/blog/open-evening-2020.

Our students, staff and parents work extremely well together and you will enjoy the supportive environment and high expectations Hertswood Academy provides. My simple message for each and every student who joins us is:

"We have a 'no-limits' approach to your achievement and are committed that you aim high and achieve excellence in being the best that you can be."

We will be in contact with you regularly over the coming weeks to explain the induction process and to find out, much more about you, so that you have a smooth transition to secondary school. We are delighted that you and your family have chosen Hertswood Academy.

Yours faithfully

Peter Gillett, Headteacher

