



Sir Geoffrey Leigh
Academy



Prospectus

Opening Minds to Success

Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy is part of Leigh Academies Trust



Leigh Academies Trust is a medium sized multi-academy trust operating across Kent, Medway and South East London. It contains primary, secondary and special academies and is highly inclusive and successful. Our mission is to shape the lives of young people for the better through high quality education and in doing so, transform the communities in which they live.

Our Values

We care -
about our pupils through our human-scale approach to education, our staff and their well-being and the communities that we serve, driven by our high ideals and strong moral values.

We have boundless ambition -
to achieve excellence for all and create confident young adults with high levels of resilience and integrity.

We work together -
as one team in the belief that we are greater than the sum of our parts. We foster an enterprising culture through collaboration and in close partnership with industry and other educators.

We keep getting better -
using our 'can-do' attitude towards continuous improvement and innovation.



For admission enquiries telephone: 01322 620400
or email: info@sgla.latrust.org.uk

'Pupils are proud to be part of Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy. They enjoy school and the good friendships they develop.'

Ofsted, 2023

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Apply today

To apply for a place at Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy, please visit our website for further information:

Click here to submit your application



Welcome



‘Pupils have exceptional opportunities.’

Ofsted, 2023

Opening Minds to Success

Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy offers outstanding learning opportunities for students from Year 7 to Year 13, supported by our innovative Chromebook scheme which ensures every learner is equipped for success. As the flagship academy of Leigh Academies Trust, we are proud to provide an inspirational environment with state-of-the-art facilities and modern technology.

Our mission is to prepare students with the knowledge, skills, and behaviours they need for their future. Through a broad and balanced curriculum, we nurture individual talents and interests so every student can thrive.

Since achieving IB World School status in December 2020, we have embedded the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (Years 7–9) and expanded our Post-16 offer with the International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme. We are also excited to be adding the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme to our Post 16 curriculum offer in the near future.

We are equally proud to be the first school in the UK to receive the Healthy Minds School Kite Mark, recognising our pioneering role in delivering the Healthy Minds curriculum and our national recognition as an Area of Excellence for personal development.

At Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy, we strive for exceptionality in all that we do while *‘opening minds to success’*. This ethos is reflected in the dedication of our staff, the consistency of our teaching, and our commitment to ensuring that every student is happy, resilient, and successful.

Working in close partnership with parents and carers, we ensure that students of all abilities, interests, and talents are supported to achieve their potential and become part of a truly inspiring and challenging learning community.

Miss Roberts,
Principal



our VISION & VALUES

Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy inspires the next generation to be resilient and respectful learners who are successful and strive for academic excellence by:

- Challenging all to become compassionate and active members of our global community;
- Building effective partnerships through intercultural and social interaction;
- Ensuring consistent approaches to develop lifelong learners.

We provide a learning environment that is both welcoming and supportive, creating a caring atmosphere where every student can reach their full potential — intellectually, spiritually, ethically, and physically.

We recognise the uniqueness of every individual, valuing each student equally and ensuring they have the opportunity to experience success. Achievements are celebrated openly and with pride, reinforcing our belief that success is for everyone.


Our mission is to inspire and prepare students for life beyond the academy by offering:

- Engaging lessons that spark curiosity and ambition
- Personalised learning plans tailored to individual needs
- Targeted support and feedback to help every learner progress

Through this, we aim to equip all students with the skills, knowledge, and character they need to flourish in education and in life, enabling them to leave Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy as happy, resilient, and successful young people, ready to embrace the challenges of the future.

We believe that it is our mission to support students to develop the skills they need to be successful in their education and beyond. This is underpinned by the International Baccalaureate's Learner Profile where students strive to be:

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| • Knowledgeable | • Inquirers |
| • Principled | • Communicators |
| • Thinkers | • Balanced |
| • Open-minded | • Caring |
| • Reflective | • Risk takers |

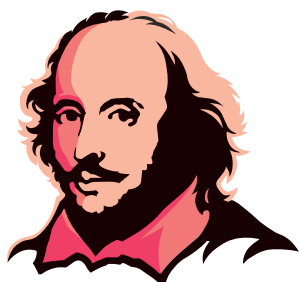


'High expectations of pupils' behaviour and learning are embedded.'

Ofsted, 2023

Our colleges

Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy follows a human-scale model of education, placing students into one of four colleges during their school journey: Shakespeare College, Mandela College, Curie College, and Seacole College. Students then transition to Attenborough College for their Post-16 studies. This college system ensures that every child is known, valued, and supported to achieve their potential in a community that encourages engagement in learning, fosters strong, nurturing relationships, and promotes respect for self, others, and the wider world.



Shakespeare College

William Shakespeare (1564–1616) is celebrated as one of the greatest writers in English literature. He authored around 37 plays and over 150 poems, introducing more than 1,700 words still used today. Shakespeare's creativity, knowledge, and influence make him an enduring role model. In Shakespeare College, we encourage students to be creative, reflective, and responsible learners. Students are supported to become confident communicators who work collaboratively with peers and adults, embodying the values of curiosity and enthusiasm in all they do.



Mandela College

Nelson Mandela (1918–2013), social rights activist and South Africa's first Black president, is remembered for his resilience and lifelong commitment to freedom, equality, and justice. In Mandela College, we inspire students to emulate Mandela's perseverance, integrity, and dedication to social responsibility, fostering a community that respects and upholds these values in both school and society.



Curie College

Marie Curie (1867–1934), a pioneering scientist, was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize and the only person to win in two different sciences. Her work in radioactivity, radium, and polonium exemplifies curiosity, ambition, and resilience. In Curie College, students are encouraged to pursue their passions, embrace challenges, and innovate, developing the perseverance and problem-solving skills necessary to make a positive impact on society.



Seacole College

Mary Seacole (1805–1881), a Jamaican-British nurse, healer, and businesswoman, is remembered for her courage, compassion, and determination during the Crimean War. Seacole exemplified care, resilience, open-mindedness, and principled action. In Seacole College, students are encouraged to adopt these values, developing empathy, courage, and problem-solving skills while being inspired to act with integrity in their own lives.

Our curriculum

At Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy, we pride ourselves on delivering a broad, balanced, and ambitious curriculum that allows every student to explore new subjects, develop essential skills, and discover their individual strengths. We believe that all students have the potential to achieve excellence, and we encourage them to challenge themselves, nurture their interests, and celebrate their own unique areas of expertise.

Our students follow a three-year Key Stage 3 curriculum. In Year 9, they make informed choices about the subjects they wish to pursue at GCSE level. Beyond GCSE, we actively encourage students to continue their learning journey within our Post-16 provision, where they can access a diverse range of academic and vocational pathways.



In addition to traditional subjects, we are proud to deliver an innovative Healthy Minds programme. Ofsted (2023) praised it as *“an extremely well-thought-out programme covering all the important topics.”* This programme equips students with the knowledge, resilience, and personal skills they need to thrive, both in school and beyond. Healthy Minds lessons are timetabled weekly for all students in Years 7, 8, and 9.

Student support

At Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy, we are committed to supporting every student so that they feel safe, valued, and able to thrive both academically and personally.

Each college community is supported by a Student Services Manager (SSM) and a Student Services Officer (SSO) — non-teaching staff who are available throughout the day to provide pastoral support and guidance. In addition, every student is part of a tutor group, with daily contact from their tutor who oversees their holistic development and wellbeing.

We believe it is our duty to provide equal opportunities for all students and to create a safe, inclusive learning environment where individuality is respected. Our approach to support and inclusion ensures that every young person can access the curriculum, participate fully in school life, and achieve their potential.

Chromebooks

The academy operates a Google Chromebook scheme for all of our students, which ensures that every student has access to their own device to use throughout their education with us. We believe that the Chromebook provides students with the opportunity to learn any time, any place, and offers greater flexibility in completing assignments and

developing independent learning skills, both in lessons and at home. For parents and carers, it also provides a unique window into your child's learning and enables you to be involved and informed about their progress on a daily basis. Students can only use LAT devices on our network.



‘Staff understand pupils’ needs. This includes pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Helpful strategies support pupils in class.’

Ofsted, 2023

Special Educational Needs and Inclusion

SGLA adopts a holistic approach to special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). All staff are trained to support inclusion, ensuring students with additional needs are able to achieve positive outcomes.

Hearing Impaired Specialist Resource-Based Provision

Our Inclusion Hub includes a specialist resource base for hearing impaired students with severe to profound hearing loss. We are developing a total communication, child-led approach, ensuring that each student’s needs are assessed and supported individually using a range of strategies.

- Students are primarily taught in mainstream classes, ensuring full inclusion with their peers.
- Specialist lessons, audiology, and speech and language therapy are delivered within the resource base.
- Our specialist team works closely with mainstream teachers to ensure accessibility and progress.

‘An extremely well-thought-out ‘healthy minds’ programme covers all the important topics.’

Ofsted, 2023

Speech, Language and Communication Specialist Resource Provision

We also provide a resource-based provision for students with speech, language, and communication needs (SLCN), identified through their Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans.

- Students spend the majority of their time in mainstream lessons.
- They also access specialist support through small-group teaching and therapy sessions.
- Support is delivered by a dedicated team of speech and language therapists, specialist teachers, and learning support assistants, enabling independence and full access to the curriculum.

Careers education and work-related learning

At SGLA, we prepare students for success in a global community through a robust careers education and work-related learning programme.

- We hold the Investor in Careers Award, reflecting our commitment to high-quality careers guidance.
- Our careers programme follows the Career Development Institute (CDI) guidelines, ensuring structured and meaningful provision.
- We help students make informed choices, link learning to future pathways, and develop skills for lifelong success.

Through careers education, we ensure students understand the relevance of their learning and are fully prepared for life beyond education.

Post-16 Study

Post-16 is a thriving part of academy life at Sir Geoffrey Leigh Academy, led by a dedicated team committed to opening doors for the young adults in our care. Our aim is simple: to support every student in becoming the very best version of themselves, fully prepared for the next step — whether that be university, apprenticeships, or employment.

We offer a wide choice of courses, providing pathways that are bespoke to the needs of our students:

- International Baccalaureate Career Related Programme
- Vocational BTEC/AAQs (applied and technical qualifications)
- Blended (a combination of academic and vocational study)

We deliver the International Baccalaureate (IB) Career-related Programme (CP) — an internationally recognised and highly valued qualification that equips students with the resilience, independence, and skills required for success in higher education and the workplace. From September 2026, the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme will be available to our Post 16 students.

Attenborough College

Our Post-16 provision, Attenborough College, is named after Sir David Attenborough, the renowned environmentalist, scientist, and broadcaster. His lifelong dedication to the natural world demonstrates the IB learner profile attribute of being balanced—recognising the interdependence of people and the planet. At Attenborough College, students are encouraged to develop critical thinking, independence, and global awareness, preparing them to make informed and responsible decisions as they move on to higher education, apprenticeships, or employment.

Support and Study Environment

Post-16 students benefit from:

- Dedicated study spaces across the Academy to suit independent and collaborative learning;
- A Chromebook scheme to support digital learning;
- Strong pastoral care from form tutors and the Post-16 team;
- Personalised careers advice and guidance to make informed future choices.

Students also have structured study periods, alongside opportunities for community service, work experience, or paid employment, encouraging a balanced and responsible approach to life inside and outside the Academy.

This framework ensures that Post-16 students are not only successful academically but also grow into confident, responsible role models.

We greatly value the role our Post-16 students play in shaping the wider life of the Academy. Through positions on the Post-16 Leadership Team, students have the chance to influence provision, represent their peers, and take on responsibilities that build leadership skills and prepare them for life beyond school.

‘The Curriculum prepares pupils well for the future. Regular careers, education and advice shine a light on the various options open to them. Pupils gain a range of qualifications.’

Ofsted, 2023



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LEIGH
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