

# PROSPECTUS



## THE **ROBERT NAPIER** SCHOOL

A **Beyond** ACADEMY  
SCHOOLS TRUST

# WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

A warm welcome to The Robert Napier School, part of the Beyond Schools Trust. I am privileged to lead this community school of choice, steeped in history into its next exciting phase of development and growth.

Raising aspirations is a key component of our success and supporting the all-round personal development of your child. Our culture and ethos - Learn, Believe, Achieve centres around the ethic of excellence. Our success is built on the foundations of strong and positive relationships throughout our community extending to you as parents whose support is essential in achieving the best for your child on this exciting seven-year journey. We have an amazing team of hardworking and dedicated staff, committed to making a real difference. We celebrate student successes year after year with progression onto their university choices, selected apprenticeships, or meaningful employment.

We invite you to come and view the school to see our happy and inspirational atmosphere and look forward to welcoming your child into our inclusive family community.

Jenny Tomkins  
Headteacher

**“A community ethos where the morale of both staff and pupils is positive”** *Ofsted*



# OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The Robert Napier School is a community that works together to inspire our learners and help them towards a great future.

We firmly believe in being successful together: developing our students' creativity, motivation and resilience as preparation for a future not yet created.

Our values are underpinned by our ethos that all our students will **learn, believe and achieve**, both in our school and beyond.

This ethos creates a strong learning environment that enhances academic achievement and develops social and relationship skills that last beyond the school gates.



# WELFARE OF STUDENTS

We were delighted to be recognised as outstanding for our work to promote students' personal development and welfare by Ofsted.

Our school has a dedicated team of staff who work closely with our students, parents and external services to ensure that all our students are safe and supported.

Our ethos is built entirely on fostering positive relationships, so that students thrive, feel safe, cared for, acknowledged and respected. Our expectations, both of behaviour and school focus, are high and we aim to give every student the ability to achieve their very best. Positive relationships enable our students to feel secure and valued. We want our students to enjoy their time with us and look forward to all parts of their education.

**“The outstanding personal development & welfare that the Headteacher and the team offer is highly valued by pupils.”**

*Ofsted*



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# TEACHING & LEARNING

Teaching and Learning at The Robert Napier School helps drive all aspects of school life, so each and every student can succeed. Each student will be successfully challenged and supported in order to leave the school able to access a wealth of opportunities.

We believe that every child has the right to a high quality and inspirational education, with our staff working on the principle of making every lesson count. Varied teaching and learning strategies allow every student to access the curriculum regardless of ability, prior attainment and learning preferences. Staff collaborate across the school and across the Trust to share best practice and maintain a consistent approach that is underpinned by evidence-based research. Learning will be active and engaging, whilst allowing for rigorous reflection.

We expect our students to engage in and take responsibility for their own learning, participating fully in learning activities in the classroom and beyond. We also encourage them to reflect upon their own progress, setting targets and using the support from staff to make progress towards achieving them.

**“Raising standards through improving the quality of teaching, learning and assessment is at the heart of the school’s successful development.”** *Ofsted*



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**“The curriculum is  
carefully tailored to meet  
pupils’ different needs.”**

*Ofsted*

# OUR CURRICULUM

The curriculum at The Robert Napier School has been carefully developed to provide a broad and balanced basis from which students can flourish. This ensures students develop in confidence as they grow through the school, maximising their attainment as they complete their studies at the end of Year 11.

Having followed a broad curriculum in Key Stage 3, students complete the options process to mark the transition from Key Stage 3 to 4. As part of this, students are able to choose from a wide variety of both GCSE and applied courses, which cater for the array of interests and talents they have.

The main curriculum is supported by additional programmes and alternative pathways, devised to support those students for which the main curriculum is deemed inappropriate.

Throughout their time at the school, students receive extensive and high quality independent advice and guidance, preparing them for the next stage of their journey at the end of each key stage.

One of the range of options available to them is to join the school Sixth Form. Here, students follow three A' Level (or equivalent) courses, which they then use to access higher education both locally and nationally.



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## RAISING ASPIRATIONS & CAREERS PROVISION

At The Robert Napier School, we promote high aspirations, mutual respect and learning as part of a lifelong journey to prepare our students for life in the 21st century working world. Our careers programme is designed to support our students as they prepare for the next phase, be that through further study or a more vocational route.

### Our support includes:

- Careers advice from our in-house careers advisor
- Visiting workshops and talks from a wide variety of work places to expose students to a wealth of opportunities
- Small group workshops designed to enhance money management and employability skills
- Work experience during Year 10 & 12 to give students a realistic insight into the realities of working life



# TRANSITION FROM PRIMARY TO SECONDARY

We know that moving from primary to secondary school can be a worrying time – for parents as well as for students. That is why we try to make the transition between the two as smooth as possible.

This starts with us visiting your child in their primary school, ensuring there is a friendly face they have met before, as well as an opportunity to ask any questions. We also run a transition day, giving a taster of the school and its lessons and teachers, as well as a welcome evening where you and your child can come along and meet the staff. On top of all of that, we also run a Summer School prior to students starting in September, allowing new Year 7s to come along and get to know some other students who will also be joining at the same time.

Our new Year 7 students are supported by a Pastoral Manager (a non-teaching member of staff) and a Head of Year (teaching member of staff), who support your child during their transition and throughout their time at school. The year teams offer the pastoral support and are the first point of contact for parents, should they have any questions or concerns.

**“an exceptionally caring and  
inclusive environment.”** *Ofsted*

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# WIDER CURRICULUM

We believe firmly that working hard will produce great academic outcomes – but that is not the whole picture. At The Robert Napier School, we pride ourselves on the wide range of extra-curricular opportunities that we offer, enhancing the lives of our students.

Extra-curricular activities include clubs, access to the Duke of Edinburgh Award programme and a variety of schools trips. We are also in the process of partnering with another school to offer a small Combined Cadet Force.

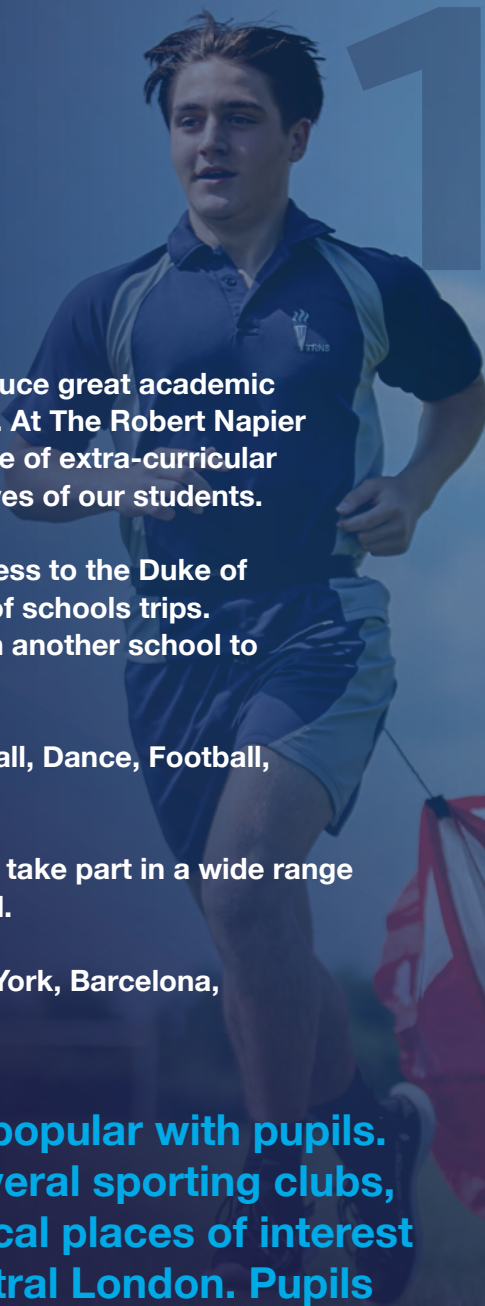
The clubs running include: Archery, Basketball, Dance, Football, Netball & Table Tennis.

In addition, students have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of trips throughout their time with the school.

Students have been able to visit Paris, New York, Barcelona, Ypres (Belgium) & Auschwitz (Poland).

**“Extra-curricular activities are popular with pupils. They enjoy participating in several sporting clubs, and look forward to trips to local places of interest such as Dover Castle and central London. Pupils are also given the opportunity to broaden their horizons through visits to Europe and America.”** *Ofsted*

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# INTRODUCTION TO THE SIXTH FORM

At The Robert Napier School we pride ourselves on offering quality teaching and learning experiences, and a comprehensive additional curriculum that helps to foster well rounded young adults, who are prepared for their future aspirations.

Over a period of years, the extensive curriculum on offer has been developed to take account of the range of interests our students have, and the different career pathways our students are keen to pursue. The mix of academic and vocational courses ensures we cater for all needs and lays the foundations for our Sixth Form students to become successful beyond the Robert Napier community.

In recent years, our students have left us at the end of their studies, to pursue courses at a range of universities, colleges, and apprenticeships, as well as starting a variety of different careers.

To supplement this, all our Sixth Form students have access to an extensive additional curriculum package, designed to enhance their skills and knowledge. Examples of this include theatre trips, visits to international sports events, the National Careers Service, seminars about health and the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

We encourage and support our Sixth Form students to embrace all the opportunities available to them at The Robert Napier School.



A young man with glasses and a young woman are looking at a document together in a classroom. The man is on the left, wearing a grey sweater over a blue shirt, and the woman is on the right, wearing a striped shirt. They are both smiling and looking at the document. The background is a blue bulletin board with various papers and photos pinned to it. A large white number '12' is in the top right corner.

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**“Students experience a range of enrichment activities, which contribute well to their personal development and welfare.”**

*Ofsted*

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# INTRODUCTION TO OUR TRUST

We are an ambitious organisation of 5 schools, serving the educational needs of nearly 4,000 children and young people aged 3 to 19.

The Robert Napier School is an important part of our organisation and has established itself as an innovator and contributor to the improvement journey of our Trust.

Our academies are based in a tight geographical area drawing students and employees from Kent and Medway in the South East of England and this creates a unique opportunity for our employees to work collaboratively. We believe that by working together, rather than in isolation, we can accelerate educational improvement towards achieving our strategic objectives. The result of this is that we can create better training and professional development for our staff and more opportunities for developing lifelong success for our students.

To read more about our Trust and its role in leading and supporting your child's education please visit our website:  
[www.beyondschools.co.uk](http://www.beyondschools.co.uk)

# Above & Beyond

SCHOOLS TRUST

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THE  
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