

# Prospectus



THE  
**SUTHERS**  
SCHOOL





## WELCOME

*The Suthers School is a brand new, non-selective, 11–18 secondary school which opened in September 2017 and serves the communities of Fernwood, Balderton and Newark-on-Trent.*

The Suthers School has at its heart the absolute conviction that young people deserve an education that excites and enthuses. Our ‘work hard, be kind’ philosophy, together with our unique approach to character development means that there is something very special about The Suthers School and I am very proud of our growing community.

There is no doubt that we are in an enviable position; able to craft a curriculum that meets the needs of our students and provide an extended school day which guarantees access to a wealth of extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities - and because we are developing a brand new school with one new year group at a time, we have a rare opportunity to make sure aspects such as oracy, leadership development and active citizenship are built in rather than bolted on.

In short, we aim to deliver a highly academic, inclusive curriculum and to empower the young people of Newark to do more than they ever thought possible

I really do hope that you will be able to visit us soon and experience the difference for yourself.

**Andrew Pettit**  
Head of School



*“It is an exceptional school in all aspects.”*

Parent Voice  
May 2018





# ETHOS

## Our mission

To empower our young people to be compassionate, self-respecting, independent thinkers with the academic, social and character strengths necessary to thrive in modern society.

## Our philosophy

At The Suthers School, we firmly believe that great education transforms lives. We know that every student has the potential to exceed even their own expectations and we know that the way we do things matters. Our motto, ‘work hard, be kind’ underpins everything we do, reflects our unwavering commitment to excellence and our absolute conviction that great education is about striking a balance between academic preparation and character development.

## Our values

We believe, as W B Yeats is often credited with saying, ‘Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire’. It is our role as educators to ignite the potential within our students and that is why the five values of The Suthers School TORCH are so important:

**Tenacity** *To show the self-discipline and determination to succeed even in the face of obstacles.*

**Optimism** *To have confidence in a future that is full of possibilities and hold onto the belief that a storm will always pass.*

**Respect** *To value ourselves and all those we encounter by acting and speaking with compassion, tolerance and understanding.*

**Curiosity** *To ask questions, enjoy exploring and be open to new ideas and different perspectives.*

**Hard Work** *To recognise that there are no short-cuts and no excuses and that every member of the team has a contribution to make.*

## Getting the balance right: 51% character, 49% academic

Success in life depends on a combination of character and academic skill. That’s why we help our students develop character strengths that are essential for their own success and well-being—and it’s why we empower them to express their voice to improve the world around them.

## THE SUTHERS TREE





## PASTORAL

At The Suthers School your child's tutor will play a key role in ensuring their continuing happiness, well-being and academic success. Tutors serve as the first point of contact between school and home and will play an instrumental role in helping your child develop the character strengths and skills needed to thrive within and beyond school. You will also receive timely updates on your child's progress through regular reports, online data, parent consultation events and parents' evenings.

As your child progresses through The Suthers School, their attainment and well-being will be closely monitored, ensuring that students are recognised and rewarded when they succeed and supported when things are more challenging.

At The Suthers School, pupils will always be treated as an individual; we will make every effort to ensure their needs are understood and catered for in each and every lesson. Pupils will feel safe and supported at all stages in their intellectual, physical and social development.

Strong support will be provided to guide pupils in making the right decisions. We firmly believe in doing the right thing because it is the right thing to do and this will be supported by a climate where older pupils act as positive role models and where all pupils gain first-hand experience of local and global action.

*“Lives up to the motto,  
‘work hard, be kind’.”*

Parent Voice  
May 2018





## CURRICULUM

The Suthers School blends academic tradition with innovative practice to ensure that all students—regardless of their starting point—achieve well. Our extended school day means that students not only benefit from at least two Supervised Study sessions a week but also have access to our Leadership Academy, advanced learning courses and an extensive enrichment programme.

At Key Stage 3 we offer a two-year programme that covers all the National Curriculum subjects as well as PSHEC and Civics lessons which are further supported by Personal Development Days.

As the school expands, we will operate a banding system that ensures students are taught in groups that are well-matched to their ability. Data drawn from primary schools, from KS2 tests and from our own baseline assessments will be used to determine the most suitable groups and inform our early-intervention programme.

During our three-year Key Stage 4 programme, all students will study the full suite of English Baccalaureate subjects, including: English, Mathematics, Science, French and a Humanities subject. A wide range of option subjects including Drama, Art, Technology and Sports supplement the core curriculum.

From September 2022, The Suthers School will deliver educational provision at Key Stage 5 that is in keeping with academic tradition and provides access to a broad range of facilitating subjects so that our students have access to the very best higher education opportunities and are empowered to be able to make positive choices about their future pathways.



# ENRICHMENT

Our extended curriculum provides students with guaranteed access to an exciting range of extra-curricular activities; from swimming coaching and creative arts clubs to Chinese language lessons and participation in national charity campaigns, pupils at The Suthers School benefit from a truly enriching curriculum.

Such access is an essential part of a balanced and exciting education, which not only develops highly desired employability skills, but also contributes to a truly rounded educational experience—and is an integral part of our uniquely character-driven approach.

It is important to us that every student has the freedom to develop his or her interests and skills through the highest quality provision and that this should be provided without additional cost. Our extensive programme has been carefully planned to provide a variety of creative, sporting, social and academic opportunities throughout the school year, some of which lead to nationally-recognised qualifications such as LAMDA, the Young Lifeguarding Award and the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Underpinning the enrichment programme at The Suthers School is an ambition to foster essential character strengths, develop leadership potential and prepare our young people to take their place as truly successful global citizens.





## ACHIEVEMENT

Student achievement is at the heart of everything we do. We believe that academic and examination success provides the foundation that allows students to make the most of their future lives and we know that by instilling the core strengths of tenacity, optimism, respect, curiosity and hard work we are setting students up for success.

Exciting, engaging and inspiring lessons encourage achievement and we constantly strive to provide your child with the very best educational experiences.

Should your child require additional support, a range of services are available to ensure every student's success, whatever their individual educational needs.

The Suthers School is a member of the Nova Education Trust which brings a track record of success and we are very proud of the academic standards achieved since first opening.

The trust's ability to deliver high levels of achievement in a variety of contexts speaks for itself. Toot Hill School produces outstanding results at Key Stage 4 year-on-year, and is one of the highest performing schools in Nottinghamshire and nationally. Meden School in Market Warsop and NUSA (Nottingham University Samworth Academy) in Bilborough have both been transformed by the trust from schools in Special Measures to achieving Ofsted 'Good' ratings.

The Suthers School then does not stand alone and is firmly committed to achieving an 'Outstanding' rating in every aspect of its provision.





# TRANSITION

We understand that the transition from primary to secondary can be a daunting prospect for both pupils and parents. That's why we provide regular events throughout the year, giving you and your child the chance to meet our staff, talk to our students and ask any questions you might have to help you make the right choice. And we also know that the best time to visit a school is during a normal working day so please do get in touch if you would like to arrange a visit.

Indeed, we firmly believe that truly effective education should be about much more than a group of teachers working with a group of pupils and a group of parents—it is about working as a team and striving together to achieve the same goal. That goal is to empower young people to achieve more than they ever thought possible.

Detailed information about the admissions process, including our determined admissions arrangements can be found on our website [www.suthersschool.co.uk](http://www.suthersschool.co.uk). Click on 'Information' and follow the link to 'admissions' to access our dedicated page. Further information, including a parent handbook can be accessed via Nottinghamshire County Council's website.

## Useful contact information

**The Suthers School Admissions Team:**  
01636 957690 / [contact@suthersschool.co.uk](mailto:contact@suthersschool.co.uk)

**Nottinghamshire County Council School Admissions:**  
0300 500 80 80 / [enquiries@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@nottscc.gov.uk)

**NCC School Admissions Team:**  
Meadow House, Littleworth, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG18 2TA







THE  
**SUTHERS**  
SCHOOL

**The Suthers School**

The Banks  
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*(temporary accommodation)*

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Email: **[contact@suthersschool.co.uk](mailto:contact@suthersschool.co.uk)**  
Website: **[www.suthersschool.co.uk](http://www.suthersschool.co.uk)**

Executive Head Teacher:  
**Ashfaq Rahman** BSc (Hons), PGDip, PGCE, NPQH, NLE

Head of School:  
**Andrew Pettit** BA (Hons), PGCE, MCCT

