



## Prospectus



DIAMOND HALL  
JUNIOR ACADEMY  
IS A WONDERFUL  
*community.*

# Welcome to Diamond Hall Junior Academy

**At Diamond Hall Junior Academy you'll find a wonderful school community. Ask anyone of our 300 children and they will tell you that they care for, support and encourage one other to do their best every day.**

At Diamond Hall, we teach our pupils to be ready to learn, respectful and safe in school, online and in the wider community. Our staff foster children's interests, personalities and individual needs to support them in becoming well-rounded citizens .

It is a privilege to be headteacher of our ever-growing school where, as part of the North East Learning Trust, we strive to ensure each child experiences excellence every day. Our 7-11 year olds come from a wide variety different backgrounds and cultures and we are extremely proud of this diversity.

Our wonderfully talented children are the great strength of our school and deserve the very best. We offer a broad, balanced and aspirational curriculum, that ensures academic

excellence as well as meeting children's social and emotional needs. I am continuously impressed by our children's personal development and their achievement both academically and in the many extra-curricular activities we offer.

Generations of families have been successful pupils at Diamond Hall Junior Academy and we are proud of their ongoing achievements and our school's place at the heart of their community. With this as our foundation, I whole-heartedly believe that together we can work together to ensure the highest aspirations for all our pupils are achieved.

*Fiona Hoare*

**Fiona Hoare, Headteacher**



A PLACE WHERE  
CHILDREN CAN

*sparkle*

From our crop of talented young singers and musicians to our inquisitive explorers, animal enthusiasts, astronomers and gardeners, every child is valued and given the opportunity to pursue the things that make them happy.

Skills and talents are given room to grow and in addition to the academic aspirations we instill in them, children are genuinely encouraged to pursue their own individual dreams, whatever they may be. This could be through our extensive range of extra-curricular opportunities or by focusing extra attention on a particular skill or interest within the curriculum - at Diamond Hall Junior Academy, every child is given their chance to shine.

Success is regularly celebrated, from big achievements like our regional choir wins, to everyday small accomplishments like reaching a target or mastering a task they found difficult.

Through access to fantastic academic and extra-curricular opportunities, children leave us resilient, ambitious and well prepared for the big wide world of secondary school and poised to grow into marvellous young adults.

**"THIS SCHOOL CREATES A  
unique and extra-ordinary  
ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH *my*  
children have flourished."**

**YEAR 3 & YEAR 6 PARENT**



# HIGH *aspirations*

Children who attend Diamond Hall are educated in a very safe and happy environment. Our academic performance is consistently good with children making good progress regardless of their ability or background.

In our most recent Ofsted inspection (2014) we were judged to be 'good' in all areas with inspectors commenting that our teaching is good with an increasing proportion outstanding. They said: "Teachers use a wide range of methods to engage pupils in learning and this motivates pupils to make good progress .... pupils achieve well as rigorous checks are kept on their progress across the school." They also recognised our pupils "enjoy coming to school to work and to play with either friends ... they move around the school with care, are well-mannered, courteous and take a pride in their school."

Our curriculum is balanced, relevant and responsive and offers children the opportunity to be the best 21st century global citizens they can be.

Children are taught to be ready, respectful and safe. This expectation permeates all aspects of the school with our commitment to it formally accredited through our recent Rights Respecting School Award, from UNICEF. The award recognises our efforts to put children's rights at the heart of our school.

**"TEACHERS HAVE  
*high expectations* AND  
PLAN LESSONS THAT MEET  
PUPILS' NEEDS SO THAT  
THEY CAN *achieve well.*"**

OFSTED

# OUR *vision*

**OUR VISION, ALONG WITH ALL SCHOOLS IN THE NORTH EAST LEARNING TRUST, IS THAT EVERY CHILD EXPERIENCES EXCELLENCE EVERY DAY.**

## OUR *school ethos*

Diamond Hall Junior Academy is a safe, positive, stimulating, challenging and happy school where the development of the whole child is paramount. We ensure children are given every opportunity to thrive in an environment of high aspirations, care and mutual respect. Their work is valued and celebrated and all children, regardless of their abilities, are of equal worth.

Children, staff, governors, parents and the wider community work together in close partnership to attain high standards and each child is empowered to reach their full potential. Pupils are instilled with a sense of self-belief and personal achievement as well as being encouraged to think critically, creatively and independently to face the challenges of the future with confidence. A readiness to support and care for the environment underpins everything we do.

## OUR *aims*

We aim to achieve the highest possible standards in all areas for every child. Through a broad and balanced curriculum we promote the spiritual, social, moral, cultural, intellectual and physical development of children, preparing them for future opportunities and experiences in life.

**A PLACE WHERE  
*every child*  
EXPERIENCES  
*excellence*  
EVERY DAY.**



# School INFORMATION

Before your child starts with us, you will be given an opportunity to visit us so you all feel fully prepared for school life at Diamond Hall Junior Academy.

Social meetings are organised allowing you to meet with staff and become familiar with school procedures so that, as a parent, you feel at ease with the transition into the junior school environment.

The school day starts at 8.55am and ends at 3.15pm.

Our school uniform consists of:

- Red sweatshirt or cardigan
- White shirt and school tie
- Grey trousers or skirt/pinafore
- Plain black shoes

## OUR *awards*

- Healthy Schools Awards (healthy eating)
- UNICEF Rights Respecting School Level 1
- Investors in People Gold (staff welfare)
- Recent Sunderland City Sings Champions (choir)
- Silver Eco School Award (environmental projects)
- School games Mark - Silver Awards (sports)



# How to **APPLY**

Choosing which school to send your child to is an important decision and we actively encourage anyone considering Diamond Hall Junior Academy to visit us and see for yourself our fantastic school - please just give us a call to make an appointment on **0191 563 0975**

If you've already made your decision and would like your child to attend Diamond Hall Junior Academy, you will need to complete an online application form by visiting:

**[www.sunderland.gov.uk/schools-admissions-infant-junior-primary](http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/schools-admissions-infant-junior-primary)**

If you do not have access to the internet, you can complete a paper application by contacting Sunderland City Council on 0191 520 5553.

The deadline for applications is in January (see admissions website for the exact date).





## *Supported by the* **NORTH EAST LEARNING TRUST**

**Diamond Hall Junior Academy is part of the North East Learning Trust (NELT), a successful family of 12 schools across the North East.**

NELT has a proven track record of school improvement with all schools under their wing having sustained or improved their Ofsted gradings at their first inspection following sponsorship.

NELT is widely regarded as providing some of the best education in the county, and indeed the country, with children making significant progress from their starting points, achieving impressive exam results, and going on to access a range of wellrespected further and higher education opportunities including courses at some of the UK's most elite universities.

The Trust is also heavily involved with teacher development. It boasts its very own teacher training arm, North East SCITT, that trains the next generation of teachers and ensures the highest standards of teaching are instilled from the outset. It is a National Teaching

School Hub, one of 87 centres of excellence across England that provide high quality training and development to teachers throughout their careers.

Not only that, but the Trust's founding school, The Academy at Shotton Hall, is a National Research School, one of just 23 in England, that up-skill teachers using cutting-edge research.

Joining the Trust has given us access to outstanding leaders who are involved in the regional and national development of education. The Trust CEO, Lesley Powell CBE, is a member of many regional and national education boards and advisory groups. The CEO and Deputy CEOs are National Leaders of Education and the Trust also employs a wide network of specialist teachers and other experienced professionals to support schools on their paths to becoming outstanding.





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