



# WALBOTTLE CAMPUS

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offering opportunity - valuing achievement

## General Information

Walbottle Campus occupies a large, beautiful site in the Tyne valley. It could be described as a city school in rural surroundings, as 1000 students are bussed to school each day. There has been a school on the Walbottle Campus site for over 50 years. Initially there were three buildings that made up the site and they were organised as a grammar school and two secondary modern schools. Since those early days there have been many changes, not least being those of the last few years.

Our stunning £35m new school has received acclaim from parents, carers, staff, students and the wider community. Although the new building looks fantastic, the most important factor is that it all comes together under one roof and works fantastically well for us too. Please visit our website and click on 'Explore', where you will be able to access a short video showing you the wonderful facilities that we boast. I am confident that you will be thrilled and will want to visit and work in such outstanding facilities.

However, buildings alone do not make a good school. We have a brilliant staff here, who regularly go the extra mile for our students. From the Ofsted's inspection report, it was noted that *'The new Head Teacher has quickly galvanized staff and governors on a shared quest for continued improvement. Staff are well motivated and supported and are ambitious for the school's success.'* All staff have their own personal laptop computer, a data projector and interactive whiteboard in every classroom to assist with their teaching and to ensure learning is motivating and interactive and we have an excellent VTLE, which is forever developing and evolving.

We have a truly comprehensive intake, with 1653 students presently on roll including 268 in the Sixth Form. Many of our students progress to university, while many others have their learning needs met through a wide range of support throughout the school.

We are very proud of our school and the way our community of students, parents, staff and governors work together to provide an engaging learning environment so that each student achieves their full potential. We all learn best when we are happy and valued, supported, challenged and encouraged, so at Walbottle Campus we take care to ensure our students' education is both enriching and enjoyable. Academic excellence is at the heart of our school, but we nurture equally creativity, personal and physical development, independence and spirited, inquiring minds.

All students are individuals, and there can be no single pathway to success. Consequently, we endeavor to build on the raw talent and energy that all students bring with them, to help him or her to achieve personal success. Our school motto, **Offering Opportunity and Valuing Achievement** is reflected in every day life at Walbottle, and each student will have a real sense of these values throughout their time with us. We will support students as they explore their learning with confidence and creativity, and encourage them in finding a positive sense of achievement and fulfillment.

Our Key Stage 4 examination results have improved significantly over the past three years, with the Ofsted's inspection report stating *'A determined focus on raising standards has had a positive impact on students' attainment.'* This year we achieved 94% 5+ A\*-C; with 42% of students achieving 5+ A\*-C including Mathematics and English. 98% of students achieved 5+ A\*-G and 100% of students achieved at least one qualification.

We know we can do even better and we have developed internal tracking to ensure that assessment to support learning is at the heart of everything we do, so that every student achieves or better their Minimum Expected Grade (MEG).

Our Ofsted report recognised many strong and good features, one of which was the Staff Training Programme. The early finish to the teaching day every other Wednesday has allowed us to focus our training sessions on Assessment to Support Learning, including Learning and Progress. It is making a positive difference and has brought recognition from other schools and the Local Authority.

The Ofsted Workforce Reform survey rated the school as 'good' and stated, 'Walbottle Campus is a welcoming, responsive and inclusive school that strives to provide an appropriate education for all of its students. Members of the reformed workforce make a positive contribution to the education of a range of students, especially the most vulnerable and those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.'

As an Investor in People (IiP) school, we place great emphasis on staff development with a comprehensive internal CPD programme running throughout the year. We have an excellent induction programme for new staff and we pride ourselves on the number of staff that gain promotion, both internally and to other schools.

We have many aspects to be proud of at Walbottle Campus, including:

- A strong Student Voice, which recently was awarded the Investors in Children award for the second time. Our students also voted and had a major role in designing our uniform of a shirt, tie and jumper.
- We have a thriving Sixth-form of 270 students, with an 'A'-level pass rate of 99%+ and a fantastic extra curricular programme that has an enviable reputation.
- Sport is very strong within the school, with international performers participating in a range of sports. We also have Sporting Academies in Football, Basketball, Dance and Golf, where we have strong community links with local professionals.
- Performing Arts and creative subjects are very popular and are most certainly developing with fantastic shows and performances.
- Learning Support, which includes a wide range of professionals, is dedicated to improving the life chances of some of our most needy students and our vocational curriculum at Key Stage 4 has been transformed over the past 5 years, including an onsite Hairdressing Salon, a Construction Workroom and an Animal Care Room.

We had the 'pleasure' of Ofsted visiting the school in October 2009, where we are described as a 'Satisfactory School with many good features' and for a monitoring visit in March 2010 where we were judged as 'making good progress in demonstrating a better capacity for sustained improvement'. You can see the reports on our website and I am sure you will read the many strengths and good features that we achieve on a daily basis at Walbottle Campus.

Please complete the application form (note, no CVs), safe recruitment form and attach a letter of application that states clearly:

- Why you want to work with our students at Walbottle Campus.
- What has been your greatest educational achievement in your career to date?
- How your experience would help Walbottle Campus to further raise standards and achievement.

Walbottle Campus is a wonderful place to work and I am confident if you were to apply and were to be successful you would enjoy it as much as I do! Good luck and I look forward to reading your application and meeting you in the foreseeable future.

W Paul Sampson  
Head Teacher

Please address and return to:  
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