



GOSFORTH EAST MIDDLE SCHOOL

The School

The building was opened in May 2003, the first PFI school in Newcastle. It enjoys excellent facilities, which include two Science laboratories, two ICT suites, specialist Music, D.T., Food Technology rooms and a gymnasium. These are maintained by a facilities management team and the PFI contractor Cofely.

The school draws most of its pupils from owner-occupied property and is currently over subscribed. Pupils are organised into 4 form entry in each of the four year groups – Year 5, 6, 7 and 8. Current staffing establishment consists of 26 teaching staff (including the Headteacher). There are currently 3 administrative staff and 11 support staff.

Gosforth East Middle School is set in extensive and extremely pleasant grounds, containing tennis courts, hockey and soccer pitches, bordered by a golf course.

Curriculum Organisation

Heads of Department are responsible for various subject areas of the curriculum. They guide and advise teams of teachers working within a particular curriculum area throughout the school and maintain subject liaison with appropriate First, Middle and High School staff. Teaching in Year 5 and 6 is mainly class based, involving mixed ability groups except for Mathematics. In Year 7 and 8 pupils are taught by specialist teachers in most areas of the curriculum. At this stage Maths is organized in ability groupings. It is felt that such groupings allow pupils to develop more fully their interests and potential, and allows for more effective monitoring of progress. The pyramid structure operated within Gosforth permits close liaison with First, Middle and High Schools in order to ensure the necessary continuity and progress throughout the system. This has been further enhanced by the vast majority of schools in the area linking together as the Gosforth Schools Trust.

Pastoral Organisation

Pupils in school are divided into four year groups according to age. In charge of each key stage is a Key Stage Leader/Assistant Head. They are supported by two Year Group Leaders and a team of pastoral teachers. The Year Group Leader/Key Stage Leaders are responsible for the personal development and academic progress of the pupils within their particular year group. Weekly meetings are held by each year team to monitor pupil progress.

Throughout the organisation of the school, a concerted effort is made to establish and maintain an effective response to the rapid physical, intellectual and emotional development of the pupils.

Such a response relies heavily upon effective communications between home and school, and mutual trust between staff and pupils. It is essential to encourage good pupil self-image, self-confidence and self-esteem in order to promote all-round development.

There is an active Parent Teacher Association within in the school. A member of staff acts as co-ordinator between the school and the association.

Gosforth East Middle School is a progressive, enterprising and stimulating organisation. A well-developed system of corporate management has successfully evolved within the school, helping to create a sense of "joint ownership", provide effective organisation links, enhance job satisfaction and promote increased staff commitment. The school provides opportunity and support for the successful candidate's professional development.

The Governors will be seeking to appoint an enthusiastic, committed person who is able to communicate effectively, and is prepared to make a significant contribution to the life of the school.

The school was inspected in May 2012. Teaching and learning are good. Teachers know their students well and lessons are conducted in an atmosphere of respect and trust.