

The Proposed Freebrough Academy

serving East Cleveland

Inspiring success and excellence





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What is it all about?

You may already have heard about the proposal for a new Academy to open in September 2010. But what will the Academy, the first in Redcar and Cleveland, mean for you, your children and the community?

This booklet provides information about this exciting new proposal and explains how to find out more and make sure your views are heard.

The proposed Academy will offer a unique opportunity for students to benefit from 21st century facilities along with a passion and commitment that will inspire students, parents and carers, businesses and the local community.

The proposed Academy will use the award-winning buildings of Freebrough Specialist Engineering College, with a new 'Enterprise Centre' being built to accommodate post-16 students from 2012.

This is your opportunity to express your views and help shape decisions about the proposed Academy. Please take

a few moments to complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it to us in the freepost envelope provided. You can also do this online at www.freebroughacademy.org.

As well as this booklet and our new website, we will be sharing information and listening to you at upcoming events where we will be on hand to answer your questions. **Questionnaires to be completed by Friday 13 November 2009.**

Please note: The name 'Freebrough Academy' is a working name for the project.

We are interested in your views on the name of the Academy, should it go ahead.

Our aim is to enable each student to develop confidence, understanding, experience and skills that can be used throughout their lives.

Sponsors' Message

We are proud to be sponsors of the proposed new Academy in East Cleveland. We believe this is an exciting opportunity to change lives, aspirations and prospects in a broad, balanced and truly inspirational educational environment.

Our aim is to enable each student to develop confidence, understanding, experience and skills that can be used throughout their lives.

We also want to ensure the Academy not only benefits the students who will be attending it, but also the wider community. We believe that the Academy can and should make a difference to young people and adults alike, and that parents and the wider community can make a big difference to the experience of young people at school.

We recognise the achievements of Freebrough Specialist Engineering College and we aim to build on the present school's successes; including its exam results, the new buildings, the passion and commitment of its staff, engineering specialism and its business links.

Each sponsor has strong local links and we're committed to using our expertise and knowledge to create an Academy we can all be justifiably proud of. We will be working with local partners including primary and secondary schools in the area, as well as Redcar & Cleveland College.

Our goal is that the proposed Academy becomes a centre for excellence in learning for everyone in the East Cleveland area, which is why we want to hear your views as we shape the activities, facilities and services the Academy offers.

We hope you can make it to one of the consultation events and have your say on the future of your children, their education and your community.

Sponsors of the Freebrough Academy

Teesside University
Prior Pursglove College
Redcar & Cleveland Local Authority

In partnership with
Redcar & Cleveland College





Inspiring success and excellence

As well as empowering students, Academies have a key part to play in the regeneration of the whole community, building relationships with local families, businesses, schools and other organisations.

What is an Academy?

Academies are about success – success for all and providing positive opportunities for communities.

Academies are for children of all abilities. They are publicly funded, independent local schools that provide a free, first class education. They also have the flexibility to be innovative and creative within the curriculum, timetabling, staffing and governance, to bring a fresh approach to school leadership, teaching and learning.

They offer a full, broad and balanced curriculum, enhanced by one or more subject specialisms; at the proposed Freebrough Academy our specialisms will be in Engineering and Business & Enterprise.

Academies offer a distinctive approach to education, drawing upon the skills and expertise of the Academy sponsors and community partners to deliver an inspiring education that motivates each and every student, raises standards and opens up opportunities for moving on to work, training or higher education.

As well as empowering students, Academies have a key part to play in the regeneration of the whole community, building relationships with local families, businesses, schools and other organisations.

The Academy's aims,

The Sponsors wish to create an Academy with an ethos rooted in local pride and a real ambition to succeed.

- We want the local community and parents to be really proud of this Academy, and would expect to be held to account by you if we don't deliver.
- We want our young people to be able to be proud of what they achieve, their community and their school.
- We want staff to be proud to work at the Academy and for it to be the school that everyone wants to work at.

We have five core values:

- Excellence and the achievement of the highest educational standards for all students.
- Opportunity and the raising of students' aspirations.
- Respect and inclusivity for all members of the Academy community and in the Academy's work with external groups and organisations.
- Empowerment of students as learners, and of teachers as professionals.
- Partnerships to ensure the Academy is a valued resource for the community it serves, and an active member of the 'family' of schools to which it belongs.

The Academy will set the highest aspirations for student achievement, providing a curriculum that's challenging, relevant and underpinned by the use of innovative, new technologies.

Creating a learning environment where we balance 'challenge', 'care' and 'contribution', at the heart of the Academy ethos.

Our aims, which reflect the ethos and values, are:

- To set challenging goals, expect the highest standards of achievement, raise aspirations and celebrate progression.
- To be a caring and inclusive school community, creating a happy and fulfilling learning environment for students and staff alike and where everyone gives of their best.
- To contribute to the wider community and to collaborate with local schools and engage with other organisations and businesses.



vision and values

We will achieve these aims through the following eight broad objectives:

- Ensuring all students fulfil their potential through a flexible curriculum, personalised learning opportunities and positive home/school liaison.
- Raising aspirations by enthusing, stretching and challenging all young learners.
- Creating a purposeful learning environment through high expectations of student behaviour and a real focus on quality learning, teaching and assessment.
- Being an inclusive Academy that shows respect and tolerance for all members of the community.
- Promoting healthy lifestyles with the support of a pastoral care programme and through particular attention to young people's personal development.
- Valuing the commitment of staff and rewarding their expertise and professionalism.
- Engaging with and supporting the regeneration of the local community with the Academy playing a crucial role by taking pride in its place in the local community and actively engaging with projects.
- Fostering an enterprising, 'can do' culture in all aspects of the Academy's work, and building on the school's excellent business partnerships.



The Academy's Specialisms

The proposed Academy will deliver the National Curriculum, enhanced and supported by dual specialisms in Engineering and Business & Enterprise.

The development of these two specialisms will be reflected throughout the curriculum and provide our young people with skills, experience and qualifications that will take them into the worlds of work, training or higher education.

Engineering:

The Engineering specialism will build on the existing strengths of Freebrough Specialist Engineering College and the highly successful partnership arrangements with local and national engineering companies. The Academy will continue to improve the specialist facilities and the quality of teaching and learning in the specialism and will develop innovative approaches to problem-solving, creativity and team working. Sponsors and partners will look forward to working with the school in the areas of Engineering and Technology.

Business & Enterprise:

Building upon the Sponsors' excellent business partnerships, the Academy will extend and develop these strong links as part of the new Business & Enterprise specialism. Business has been chosen because of the importance of understanding key concepts of the business world. These range from personal finances and the business skills of enterprise, communication, teamwork, self-responsibility, reliability and punctuality, through to an understanding of how small, medium and large businesses operate.

The Academy will take full advantage of the University's Business School, business networks, Prior Pursglove's extensive links with employers, and Redcar & Cleveland College's vocational expertise.



Tara College
Tara College



Opportunities

Post-16 for Academy Students

A key aim of the Academy is to motivate students to stay on after the age of 16 to enhance their skills and knowledge, and ultimately equip them with all they need to have a rewarding career.

At the heart of the post-16 vision for the Academy is the creation of an 'Enterprise Centre' to offer a distinctive and innovative learning experience. This will complement the extensive range of courses that already provides attractive progression routes for Freebrough learners at Prior Pursglove and at Redcar & Cleveland Colleges.

The 'Enterprise Centre' would provide an exciting and dynamic business environment aimed at encouraging young entrepreneurs of all abilities. Students will follow a personalised learning programme supported by an Academy Enterprise Team and business and student mentors from the Colleges and the University.

Whatever their ambitions, the Academy, with its partner colleges, will give all students a guarantee of progress into post-16 education and the opportunity to develop practical skills and gain valuable experience.

Community Partnership

Parents, carers and families will play a vital role in helping Academy staff inspire students to fulfil their potential in a caring and inclusive environment.

The proposed Academy will be at the heart of the local community.

It will offer learning opportunities to adults and a wide range of recreational and cultural activities for families and local residents.

In the coming months, the Sponsors will work with the community to develop these ideas to ensure that the services genuinely meet the needs of the local community.

It will be an essential part of the Academy's approach to have good two-way communication with parents and carers, including establishing a vibrant parents' forum and effective home-school agreements.

Admissions

The Academy will admit girls and boys of all backgrounds, abilities and faiths. There will be up to 1000 places for 11-16 year olds plus 100 places in a newly established enterprise centre. The Academy will admit 200 children into Year 7.

The Academy wishes to serve the local community and to continue to operate within the admission zone/catchment area arrangements of the family of Redcar & Cleveland schools, retaining the same priority catchment area as the current school. This is the area contained within the wards of Loftus, Brotton, Skelton and Lockwood.

Although the proposed specialisms of the Freebrough Academy are Engineering and Business & Enterprise, the Academy will not select by ability or aptitude for these, or any other subjects.

Current students of Freebrough Specialist Engineering College will automatically transfer to the new Academy.

For more information and to see the proposed admissions policy, visit www.freebroughacademy.org/admissionspolicy



Have your say

Your views are important in shaping this proposal and we're keen to hear what you think. All your views will be taken into consideration before any final decisions are made.

Complete the questionnaire in this booklet and return it in the Freepost envelope provided. You can also complete the questionnaire online: www.freebroughacademy.org/questionnaire. All questionnaires need to be returned by **Friday 13 November 2009**

You can complete the questionnaire online: www.freebroughacademy.org/questionnaire

If you are a parent or carer who cannot access either of these methods and wish to participate in the consultation, please discuss this with the school.

School staff will have a separate consultation on education and employment matters and what the proposals will mean for them. Governors will also be consulted separately.

To keep up to date with progress on the proposed Academy, visit our website at:

www.freebroughacademy.org

What happens next?

We want to make sure that the Academy proposals are made widely available for consultation, giving everyone the opportunity to give their views and listen to others.

We are offering a series of events for students, parents/carers, staff, school governors and the whole community to meet the Sponsors' and find out more. Details of the events are as follows:

Timetable for consultation meetings

Freebrough Specialist Engineering College	Tuesday 20 October 2009
Staff	3.45pm
School Governors	5.30pm
Parents and Carers	6.30pm
Public Meeting, Brotton, Freebrough Specialist Engineering College	Monday 2 November 2009
Public Meeting, Skelton, Skelton Primary School	Tuesday 3 November 2009
Public Meeting, Loftus, Loftus Town Hall	Wednesday 4 November 2009



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