

# LIFT NEW RICKSTONES PROSPECTUS



Lift New  
Rickstones



# Our Key Drivers



Excellence  
is a habit



Aim high



Individuals  
matter



Culture



Worldwide



Community  
and family

## Ambition

Have the inner drive  
to learn and improve.

Stay focused and  
committed in the face  
of challenges.

Take charge of your  
learning.

Be **proud** of your  
achievements.

## Character

Be curious, confident  
and **resilient**.

Own your actions  
and be **kind** to others.

Do the right thing  
when no one is looking  
and get your  
reaction right.

## Opportunity

Take advantage  
of experiences to  
grow and develop  
your skills.

Discover new interests  
and paths.

Support your  
community to thrive.



# Message from the Regional Education Director

**My vision is to prepare our students for an ever changing world, where their future career roles may not currently exist, to ensure we provide the skills and knowledge so they can adapt, be resilient and be open to the opportunities that may lay ahead.**

At Lift New Rickstones, our aim is to create an engaging and inspiring learning environment where students find joy in their educational journey. We are dedicated to providing tailored academic challenges that empower each student to reach their full potential. Simultaneously, we are committed to fostering a nurturing community that promotes both individual growth and a strong sense of social responsibility among all members of our school family.

At Lift New Rickstones, we prioritise:

- A positive, respectful atmosphere where everyone feels valued
- Student leadership and involvement in shaping our future
- Strong student-teacher relationships built on mutual respect
- A belief in universal success, supported by our curriculum
- Developing Ambition, Character, and Opportunity with all students

**Ambition:** Have the inner drive to learn and improve, be focused and committed in the face of challenges and be proud of achievements

**Character:** Students to be curious, confident and resilient. Own their actions and be kind and will do the right thing, even when no one is looking.

**Opportunity:** To take advantage of experiences to grow and develop skills, discover new interests and paths, to embrace every opportunity.

Everything we undertake is to allow students at Lift New Rickstones to be safe, to be happy, to be the best they can be, and most importantly for me, to be proud to call this their school.

**SIMON COX**

*Regional Education Director*



# Teaching and Learning

High quality teaching and effective learning is our priority. Students can expect to participate in a wide range of learning activities in and out of lessons, as well as work independently beyond the school day. We strive to prepare our students so that they can fulfil their potential and progress beyond expectations both in school and out in our community.

We aim to provide:

- a safe and stimulating learning environment where all students can progress;
- high expectations and standards of all students, staff and parents;
- activities which stretch and challenge all students;
- well planned lessons that meet and exceed the needs of each student.

Our welcoming and well-stocked library is open before and after school to support students with their independent learning. We offer an extensive range of extra-curricular opportunities, including clubs, sports, visits, shows and performances. Learning together includes parents and carers – we believe that the quality of communication between school and home supports each child's success and achievement.

“ Teachers are skilled at using different techniques and a range of strategies to develop pupils thinking and to help them achieve success. ”

Ofsted







# Curriculum

At Lift New Rickstones, we have a well-planned curriculum which provides a range of subjects to suit students' interests and needs.

The timetable of twenty-five lessons each week is broken down into five 65-minute lessons per day. Students in Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9) study English, Mathematics, Science, Geography, History, Religious Studies, Modern Foreign Languages, Digital Skills, Drama, Music, Technology, Art, Physical Education, and Personal Development.

In Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11), students continue to follow a core curriculum with a focus on achieving essential qualifications in English, Maths and Science. Students select option subjects across a wide range of curriculum areas as well as continuing physical education and personal development. Careers guidance informs students of the requirements to achieve their future goals and ambitions whether that be at university, training, or employment.

Furthermore, we provide effective support for those with special educational needs to help them succeed.

## Learning at home

At Lift New Rickstones we believe in the value of homework to develop and extend learning. We promote learning at home as an important part of a student's education, and believe it helps them to develop the attitudes and skills necessary for successful lifelong learning. Homework is set via Google Classroom with a focus on mastery of skills in Key Stage 3 and exam preparation in Key Stage 4 and 5. We ask for parents' support in checking that all homework is completed properly and on time, in order to encourage good study habits that are essential for later life.

“Pupils benefit from an ambitious curriculum across all key stages.”

Ofsted



## Maths

Mathematics at our school is an exciting journey, with hands-on learning, innovative teaching and real-world problem-solving that inspires curiosity and confidence. From thrilling maths-themed trips to engaging talks, we ignite a passion for maths that unlocks endless opportunities and future success.

## English

Our vision is to give our very best for our students so they can become passionate, lifelong users of the English language. In addition to exceptional lessons with innovative teaching strategies, we invite motivational speakers, poets, authors and theatre companies into the school to work with students to take them beyond their day to day learning, and to help foster a love for English.

## Reading

At Lift New Rickstones, improving students' reading skills and fostering a love of reading is a key priority, as it directly impacts their future opportunities. We employ three main strategies: twice-weekly tutor-time reading sessions using carefully chosen fiction, supported by trained tutors; a subject-guided reading approach to build literacy skills relevant to each academic subject; and targeted phonics support for those who need it, delivered through the 'Fresh Start' program. These strategies have led to improvements in reading ability and the development of a strong reading culture within the school.

“ Reading is a priority. Pupils who need extra support benefit from small group interventions. ”

Ofsted



# Health, safety and student wellbeing

The School takes pride in:

- keeping students safe, dealing effectively with all forms of bullying and working proactively with a range of external agencies;
- educating and promoting how to stay safe online and how to appropriately use mobile and media technology;
- ensuring students make informed choices about healthy eating, and personal health;
- helping students to understand both healthy relationships and how to stay safe from abuse and exploitation;
- equipping students to be thoughtful, caring and active citizens in school and in the wider community
- robust safeguarding and child protection procedures. Creating a culture of vigilance which promotes students' welfare and appropriate safeguarding action is taken where students may be regarded as at risk;
- promoting spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues through our personal development programme;
- up to date health and safety policies and procedures with regular department inspections and risk assessments;
- excellent facilities which are clean and welcoming.

“ From the moment you step in to New Rickstones School you feel welcomed and know you are in safe hands and surrounded by staff who care. ”



## Staying safe

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and we expect all students, staff, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment. We have highly-trained and experienced staff designated to deal with issues. Should parents have any concerns about the welfare of their child they should contact their Head of Year.



## Caring for each child

We recognise that starting at a new school is an important transition for young people and their parents. Through our pastoral care systems, we ensure that each student is known as an individual. Each student is assigned to a tutor group which allows them to meet daily with a teacher who is designated as their personal tutor, and also to form strong friendships. This creates a sense of belonging for students helping them feel at home from their very first day. Students also have a Head of Year who is responsible for the day-to-day running of their year group and a Pastoral Co-ordinator who supports the Head of Year.

## Extra-curricular activities

Students are encouraged to make the most of their time at Lift New Rickstones by taking full advantage of the wide range of opportunities available to them. Visits to galleries, museums, field trips and extra-curricular activities play an important role in broadening our students' experiences and horizons.

Extra-curricular activities include various sports, cooking, music & drama, LGBTQ+, arts & crafts and much more. We also run a variety of trips throughout the year including historical visits, team building and sporting fixtures. During our annual 'activities week', students have further opportunities for trips which aim to build confidence and resilience.

## Celebrating success

Celebrating the success of our students is key at Lift New Rickstones. Students receive congratulatory post cards, letters, and phone calls home. We hold regular assemblies to recognise the success of individuals and groups. Our annual Key Stage 4 Presentation Evening is the highlight of the year, and a time when we can celebrate the many successes of our students. The School runs an achievement point system where students with high achievement points are recognised with achievement badges in termly honours assemblies. Students also receive subject awards in honours assemblies.







## Student Leadership

We believe that all members of our community are leaders and the development of leadership skills at an early age is good preparation for adult life. At some point in everyone's lives they will take on the role of a leader, whether it be leading a large organisation or leading their family. Developing leaders goes hand in hand with developing strength and character and improving student outcomes.

We are proactive in giving students opportunities to lead, influence and inspire others and we challenge all of our students to become the best possible version of themselves. Students are encouraged to participate in all aspects of school life, contributing their own ideas and taking on leadership roles and responsibilities.

We teach our students both about leadership and the skills to be a good leader through our curriculum. This is delivered through Student Voice, Personal Development lessons, tutor times, assemblies and our extra curricular/enrichment offer. It is also embedded into the curriculum of all subject areas where students are given the opportunity to develop leadership skills through the tasks they are set.

## Careers

Lift New Rickstones students have a meaningful and robust careers education from Year 7 through to Year 13. All students are exposed to the latest information and career guidance and are supplied with a wide range of up to date materials relating to careers education and career opportunities.

Our careers curriculum uses the Gatsby benchmarks to ensure that our programme meets the statutory requirements but is also rigorous and relevant for our students entering the world of work, college, apprenticeships and university.

“Pupils love that our school is somewhere you can be yourself.”

Ofsted

## Attendance

Students are provided with a wide body of knowledge, skills and experiences to develop an exceptional character, to flourish academically, and to lead a happy life. An essential part of this is ensuring that students attend school every day so that they are able to realise and achieve their full potential.

We provide an engaging and stimulating environment for our students that encourages a love of school and learning. We hold the highest expectations of our students and encourage them to take personal responsibility for their learning and success both at Lift New Rickstones and within the wider community.

Missing lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind - all internal and national data shows that students who regularly attend school are far more likely to achieve well at GCSE and A level.

At Lift New Rickstones, the minimum expected attendance figure is 96%. If attendance drops below this, evidence shows that it has a negative impact on progress, achievement and other welfare related measures.

Key Stage 4 students with no absence are two times more likely to achieve 5+ GCSEs 4-9 or equivalent and three times more likely to achieve 5+ GCSEs 4-9 or equivalent including English and Maths than students missing 15-20% of lessons.

Good attendance is key to ensuring students meet their full potential and are successful at Lift New Rickstones and beyond.



At Lift New Rickstones our students are on a seven-year journey from Year 7 to 13. Witham Sixth Form, based at Lift New Rickstones, facilitates our commitment to serving our local community.

At Lift Witham Sixth Form we offer a range of flexible academic pathways taught within our specialist, self-contained facility. We are able to replicate the feel of a college yet, at the same time, our close-knit community means our students never get lost in the crowd.

Our dedicated team of personal tutors are here to support, encourage and facilitate student progress through the two years of Sixth Form study. We pride ourselves on providing a truly personalised, friendly and stimulating environment in which students can successfully achieve their goals.

A partnership with the FITC Football Academy to our Sixth Form further enhances our curriculum offer.

Whilst at Witham Sixth Form we aim to make your time with us truly special. Our wider curriculum is varied from trips and visits, to speakers and a well planned careers curriculum.

We look forward to welcoming students to our Sixth Form as they progress through Lift New Rickstones.









**Lift New  
Rickstones**

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A member of the  
**BRITISH  
SAFETY  
COUNCIL**

