

Context Information - Academy

Ash Hill Academy draws directly from the local community, with the majority of pupils living within areas that are within the 10% most deprived in the UK according to the DCLG (i.e. Stainforth). The vast majority of its intake comes from its seven main feeder primary schools. As a result of historical under performance, it loses a significant number of prospective pupils to neighbouring schools in Thorne and Edenthorpe.

The Academy opened in September 2011 as part of the School Partnership Trust group of academies. Its predecessor school (Hatfield Visual Arts College) had been placed in Special Measures in November 2009. The culture within the school was very much one of low aspirations in all areas including learning, achievement, behaviour and attendance. The current Year 13 are the pupils who joined the Academy when the school had been placed in Special Measures. The school was judged as 'Satisfactory' by OFSTED in June 2011.

In May 2015, the academy received an OFSTED Inspection and was graded as 'Requires improvement' in all categories except Leadership & Management, which was graded as 'Good'. The current Principal was appointed in July 2016. The primary focus has been on improving behaviour, developing leadership, redesigning curriculum and driving improved first quality teaching. A new group of Associate Assistant Principals and Associate Staff Leaders have also strengthened leadership. Recruitment in the core has historically been a significant barrier to improvement. The current profile of teaching is now much improved following key appointments in Maths, English, Science and Humanities. A number of the less effective teaching staff have now left the Academy.

There has also been a change of leadership in the trust at CEO level and this has resulted in a positive change of culture across the organisation. The trust is now known as Delta Academies Trust. The trust provides effective challenge and support to the Academy. This is co-ordinated by the Director of Education working directly with the academy on improvement priorities on a regular basis. The Academy is supported by a number of subject directors in key areas.

The academy is a smaller than average school that is currently undersubscribed although a lot of work is being done to increase pupil numbers. The majority of pupils live in areas of deprivation characterised by high unemployment, an inadequate employment base, low average income levels, rundown housing estates, poor health and a degraded urban environment. The proportion of pupils eligible for free school meals is above the national average. Pupils within the academy are mainly White British with the numbers of pupils who speak English as an additional language being low.

A small number of pupils requiring behavioural and emotional support attend St Wilfrid's Academy which is an Alternative Provision within Delta Academies Trust.

The prior attainment profile of the academy is shown in the table below:

Average fine points score at KS2						
NC	Year	School	National	Difference	Sig	% Coverage
Starting 2015						
	Year 11	26.1	27.6	-1.5	Sig -	94.3
	Year 10	27.3	28.5	-1.2	Sig -	98.4
	Year 9	27.1	28.7	-1.6	Sig -	98.6
	Year 8	27.7	28.9	-1.2	Sig -	97.0
	Year 7	26.6	28.9	-2.3	Sig -	99.3

% by Prior Attainment Band						
	School			National		
	Low	Middle	High	Low	Middle	High
Year 11	17.4	72.2	10.4	16.9	51.8	31.4
Year 10	15.9	58.7	25.4	13.2	48.1	38.6
Year 9	24.6	45.1	30.3	13.3	44.9	41.9
Year 8	10.8	56.2	33.1	11.1	45.3	43.6
Year 7	17.9	61.4	20.7	10.7	46.5	42.8