



# Albany Academy

## School Profile 2016

*This school profile will be available on our school website in order to communicate our school ethos, achievements and development to potential students and the rest of our community. This document is reviewed annually.*

Albany Academy, Bolton Road, Chorley, PR7 3AY



## Contact information

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School website:	<a href="http://albanyacademy.co.uk">albanyacademy.co.uk</a>
Number of pupils:	643
Age range:	11 to 16
Gender:	Mixed
Religious affiliation:	Non-Denominational
Type of school:	Converter Academy
Authority website:	<a href="http://Lancashire.gov.uk">Lancashire.gov.uk</a>

### 1. Our recent successes

**Albany Academy is consistently in the top 10 Lancashire schools for pupil progress.**

*All our students make excellent progress, irrespective of their starting points.*

*In 2016 our results improved once again, with our students making excellent progress and there has been a significant rise in the number of A\* and A GCSE grades achieved.*

*Our most recent Ofsted report from March 2014 recognised Leadership, Behaviour and Safety as Outstanding.*

*Year 7 received record applications for 2015 and 2016 and the school is oversubscribed.*

*Our capacity as an excellent school and system leader has seen Albany Learning Trust been designated as potential sponsor for other schools by the Department for Education and we have been asked to accommodate more students by Lancashire local authority.*

### 2. What are we trying to improve?

**We engage in a process of continual improvement across all areas of school.**

*Where attendance is good students' progress is excellent. We are therefore seeking to ensure all students attend consistently well. We are seeking to further improve our support for families so that parents are well equipped to support their children. We are aiming to further develop collaboration within the school so that all teams perform as well as the best.*

*We continue to improve our facilities; Two science laboratories were upgraded in 2016. Plans are in place to enhance our sports facilities and the sports hall was refurbished in 2016.*

*We are improving opportunities for students by further enhancing our excellent leadership and extra-curricular opportunities and post-16 links.*

*We are refining our curriculum in response to national changes, to ensure all subjects continue to provide excellent outcomes for all our students*

*Following consultation with our student council, we are refining the rewards available to our students.*



### 3. Have our results changed over time?

*Our examination results have continued to improve over time, especially in the progress that students make from primary school. Our results are usually well above national averages, and where they are significantly above they are highlighted green in the tables below. \*Progress 8 figures are estimates.*

Attainment	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Albany Academy - 5ACEM	65%	69%	50%	59%	63%
National 5ACEM	58%	60%	55%	55%	TBC
Albany Academy - Capped APS	340.4	342.8	321.1	322	321
National Capped APS	339.5	338.3	306.9	308.6	TBC

  

Progress	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Albany Academy - Progress 8	NA	NA	NA	0.02	0.4*
National Progress 8	NA	NA	NA	0.0	0.0*
Albany Academy - Value Added	1005	999	1024	1027	1024
National Value Added	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000

### 4. How are we making sure we are meeting the learning needs of individual pupils?

*Our consistently good and outstanding teaching is based on addressing the needs of each individual student in every subject and in every lesson. Teachers are ably supported by our excellent, experienced, pastoral team, SEN support staff and librarian who all offer a wide range of academic support. This is primarily focussed on achieving high levels of literacy and addressing specific learning barriers. Students attend additional support lessons each week as required and all read for pleasure extensively in school and our all our students make excellent progress in their subjects. Irrespective of starting points all our students make excellent progress.*

### 5. How do we make sure our pupils are healthy, safe and well supported?

*Pupils' safety and happiness are a priority at Albany. Focus Days on E-Safety and Mental Health Awareness are backed up by both the ICT and Life Studies curriculum. Bullying incidents are extremely rare and quickly dealt with. Pupil friendships and bullying are a major theme in Year 7 induction and Life Studies alongside the SMSC elements that run throughout school life. The highly successful Year 11 prefect system helps to provide student support to positive behaviour as well as role models in key stage 4 for the younger pupils. All Year 7 students have Year 8 mentors attached to their tutor groups who help them throughout the year. The school employs an in-house social worker to support those pupils in most need, as well as weekly counsellor sessions, early intervention packages and non-teaching pastoral officers, so students have several experienced and approachable adults to turn to if issues arise.*

### 6. How do our absence rates compare with other schools?

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Albany Academy Attendance	95.3%	94.7%	95%	95%	95%
National Attendance	93.1%	93.4%	94.2%	94.4%	TBC

*Our attendance rates are very good and continue to improve because of our high expectations and because we are able to motivate our students and provide support to parents through our expert Pastoral Team.*



## 7. What activities and options are available for pupils?

**Our students have many excellent opportunities to develop into leaders of the future:** Year 8 students act as mentors to Year 7; maths mentors support younger students, librarians manage the brilliant school library; Year 10 paired readers support all readers in school; sports leaders have developed strong links with primary schools; students report on Chorley FM; all Year 10 students volunteer in the local community and have the opportunity to participate in Duke of Edinburgh award scheme; and school prefects are excellent ambassadors and carers for all students, and work with vulnerable members of the local community.

Sports teams include boys and girls football, netball and rounders and students compete locally in athletics events. Our regular school trips include; European ski trip, science trips and geography field trips. KS3 linguists can visit Paris, and scientists and technology students engage in a wider variety of extra-curricular activities in school and hosted by local colleges.

Excellent performances provide opportunities for our drama and music students to perform to the school and local community.

## 8. How are we working with parents and the community?

**As a school community we recognise the importance of a strong relationship between school and home, and of making use of our local community to help our students develop into leaders of the future.** Our students have the same form tutor for their five years at Albany, thus ensuring strong home-school links. Weekly communications home, along with our parent handbook inform parents of key activities in school. Parents' evenings are well attended and termly reports inform parents of their children's progress. Strong links with local charities and businesses enable our students to all have opportunities to volunteer in the local community.

## 9. What have students told us about the school and what have we done about it?

**Students are consulted systematically throughout the school year.** Their opinions are valued and the chances to support the improvements in the school provide our students with several leadership opportunities, including staff appointments, prefects, redesigning the rewards system. Students are consulted through a biennial questionnaire on all aspects of school life and have asked for further improvements in sports and social facilities and are instrumental in the development of our rewards system. At a subject level, students have informed the development of the new science curriculum, resulting in an increase in experiments.

## 10. What do our pupils do after leaving the school?

**As an 11-16 school we maintain excellent relationships with Runshaw College and Bolton College which both provide an extensive range of A level, and vocational courses.** We are the first school in Lancashire to sign all our students to UCAS Progress, which provides clear advice to parents and students and tracks students through post-16 education. Our students benefit from expert advice and guidance from our staff and the staff of both colleges, including college visits, course discussions, access to the National College website, and expert careers advice. All students undertake extended voluntary service, which includes working with an employer. As a result of this preparation all students leave school to a destination of their choice and many students go on to study at the best universities, including Oxford and Cambridge. Students attending Runshaw achieve 56% A\*-B at A level and 74% distinction in vocational courses.



## 11. Ofsted's view of our school

***In March 2014 Ofsted judged the academy to be good, with leadership, behaviour and safety all judged outstanding. Key strengths highlighted that high quality leadership and governance has led to significant improvements; that all students feel safe and are well cared for and are a credit to the community; that attainment has risen and is at least good including in English and maths; that teaching is universally good or outstanding; that the curriculum is high quality; that all groups of students succeed.***

*Areas to improve further are: continuing to raise attainment in some subjects and further improving student feedback. The full report can be read at [Ofsted.gov.uk](http://Ofsted.gov.uk).*

## 12. What have we done in response to Ofsted?

***As a community we are committed to continual improvement, which goes beyond Ofsted recommendations. We are driving up the quality of teaching even further by supporting all teachers to teach outstanding lessons daily, and sharing our excellent practice systematically across the school and with other schools and colleges. Expert staff work very well to adapt the latest educational thinking and international research to our school. Students have a wider range of opportunities and greater support to enable them to develop resilience and perseverance, two key behaviours for success at college, university and in work.***

## 13. More information

If you would like more information on our school or our school policies, please do not hesitate to contact us by email ([info@albanyacademy.co.uk](mailto:info@albanyacademy.co.uk)) or phone (01257 244020).