

E-ACT

OPENING MINDS,
OPENING DOORS

DO YOU THINK BIG?

Candidate Information Pack



E-ACT
Venturers'
Academy

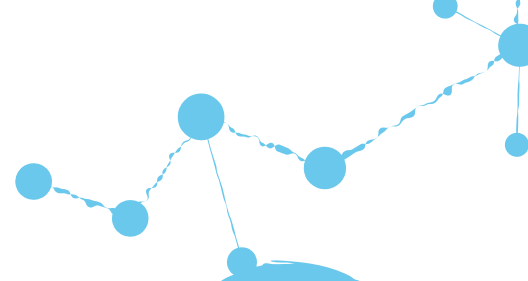




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WELCOME



Thank you for your interest in joining our team at E-ACT Venturers Academy. We are delighted that you're considering becoming part of our vibrant, inclusive, and specialist school community.

As Headteachers of the Primary and Secondary phases, we are proud to lead a school where every child is known, valued, and supported to thrive. Venturers Academy is a specialist academy for students with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC), and we are committed to providing an exceptional, nurturing environment where every child can flourish. Our approach is built on high aspirations, tailored support, and an unwavering belief in our students' potential.

Venturers Academy is based across three sites: one Secondary site at Hareclive Road, and two Primary sites at Withywood Road and St Anne's Park. Each site is a place of opportunity, collaboration, and growth. Whether you're an experienced educator or just beginning your journey in education, we offer a supportive environment where your talents will be nurtured and your contributions truly matter.

Our passionate and dedicated team works together to deliver personalised learning experiences that foster curiosity, resilience, and achievement. We celebrate individuality, encourage creativity, and cultivate a culture of kindness, respect, and ambition. At Venturers Academy, we do more than educate - we inspire. We prepare our students not just for success in school, but for fulfilling and independent futures.

We believe in the power of teamwork, professional development, and shared values. If you are enthusiastic, reflective, and ready to make a meaningful impact, we would love to hear from you.

Join us as we continue to break barriers, challenge expectations, and create opportunities—because at E-ACT Venturers Academy, everything is possible.



Helen McDicken,
Primary Headteacher



Emily Bott,
Secondary Headteacher

Firstly, thank you for taking your time to explore this opportunity to be part of our E-ACT family.

E-ACT is a National and System Leader Multi-Academy Trust, we provide education in London, Birmingham, Bristol, Manchester, Oldham, Buckinghamshire, Northants, Sheffield, and Walsall. As one of the most established trusts in the country, we serve some of the most disadvantaged young people.

Our commitment to becoming 'best in class' is stronger than ever. At E-ACT, we bring our people-first culture to life through our comprehensive people strategy. We have been diligently refining our educational and operational strategies, governance, and organisational culture to ensure we provide the very best experience for our pupils and, of course, our staff.

My fellow colleagues at E-ACT are dedicated professionals who provide the very best for our children to thrive and to grow. We take great pride in serving our local communities and being part of a supportive trust we call E-ACT.

If you think this could be the role for you, please get in touch.



Tom Campbell
CEO



Academy statistics

AT A GLANCE



Ventures Academy

Students on roll

241 

EAL Students

25% 

Pupil Premium

56% 

Ofsted: 2024

Ofsted Rated Requires improvement (2024)
Good for Personal Development, Behaviour and Attitudes
and Sixth form provision

SEND Students

100%
*overall

In just four years, we have grown from 95 to 258 students, a testament to the life-changing impact of our approach. Every student at our academy has an Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP), and we are dedicated to tailoring learning experiences that empower them to flourish academically, socially, and emotionally. We celebrate individuality, inspire ambition, and equip our students for a future filled with opportunity. Join us as we continue to challenge expectations, transform lives, and prove that—when given the right support—‘everything is possible’.

➤ Our Culture

At E-ACT Venturers' Academy, we are more than a school—we are a thriving, compassionate community where collaboration, innovation, and excellence come together to transform lives. Our working environment is built on trust, respect, and shared purpose. Every member of our team—whether teaching staff, therapists, pastoral managers, or support professionals—is valued, empowered, and supported to bring out the best in our students.

Partnerships are at the heart of our academy culture. We work closely with families, local authorities, and national organisations to ensure every child receives the highest quality of care and education. Our outreach programs, parent workshops, and engagement with external specialists reinforce our commitment to continuous improvement and advocacy for SEND learners.

At E-ACT Venturers' Academy, you won't just find a job—you'll become part of a movement that is redefining what's possible for children with autism. Together, we create an environment where students and staff alike thrive, innovate, and achieve beyond expectations.

➤ Our Benefits

At E-ACT Venturers' Academy, we believe that supporting our staff is just as important as supporting our students. When you join our team, you become part of a dynamic, forward-thinking academy that values growth, collaboration, and well-being.

Fully Funded Professional Training & Qualifications – Opportunities to specialise in ASC education, therapeutic interventions, and leadership roles

Leadership Pathways – Structured career progression opportunities through mentorship, coaching, and leadership development within the E-ACT national network.

Research & Innovation – Work alongside leading experts, engage in cutting-edge research, and contribute to pioneering best practices in ASC education.

Strong Well-Being & Work-Life Balance Focus – Enjoy flexible working options, staff well-being programs, and dedicated mental health support.

A Culture of Recognition & Reward – We celebrate staff achievements, encourage creativity in teaching, and ensure that every team member feels valued and supported.

➤ Values, Ethos and how we work in the Trust?

Think Big – Unlocking Potential, Inspiring Ambition

We believe that every student has limitless potential. At E-ACT Venturers' Academy, we set high aspirations for our students, encouraging them to dream big and push beyond perceived limitations.

Do the Right Thing – Nurturing Independence & Responsibility

We instil in our students a strong sense of integrity, accountability, and self-belief. Through personalized support and structured routines, students learn to take responsibility for their learning, choices, and actions.

Show Team Spirit – Building a Community of Support & Inclusion

Collaboration and kindness are at the heart of our academy. We create an environment where students, staff, and families work together to foster mutual respect, understanding, and a sense of belonging.

Let us introduce **OUR TRUST**



You will already know this, but we are a large multi-academy trust dedicated to providing exceptional education across our network of academies. Our mission is to inspire and challenge every student to achieve their full potential, and we are committed to creating a supportive and dynamic learning environment.

At E-ACT, we often refer to the wisdom of crowds and believe in the power of collaboration and innovation. Our team of passionate educators and staff work tirelessly to make a positive impact on the lives of our

students and the communities we serve. We are proud of our achievements and the progress we continue to make in delivering high-quality education.

As you consider joining our team, we want you to know that at E-ACT, you will be part of a forward-thinking trust that values professional growth, inclusivity, and excellence.

We are excited about the future and the opportunities it holds for our academies, our staff, and most importantly, our students.



Pupils

25,000

Staff

3,500



93%

of academies **GOOD**
or **OUTSTANDING**.

100%

of academies have leadership & management
GOOD or **OUTSTANDING**.



Awards



Based in **6**
major cities.

Academies

38



Opening Minds, Opening Doors

Opening Minds, Opening Doors embodies our trust-wide strategy that empowers our academies to triumph.

We want to give our academies the best possible support and guidance, enabling them to provide an exceptional education that impacts on the achievements of our children and young people.

How do we do this?

Every day, all our colleagues demonstrate our three values:



THINK BIG

We dare to dream big. Pushing the boundaries to create extraordinary opportunities for our young people and staff alike.



DO THE RIGHT THING

We consistently make principled choices even when faced with adversity, guided by moral purpose that fuels impactful change.



SHOW TEAM SPIRIT

Together we foster a culture of collaboration to improve, support and progress, propelling us forward as a united force.

Our academies

We are proud to have **38 academies** across England that supports children and young people from the beginning of their education experience right up to sixth-form.



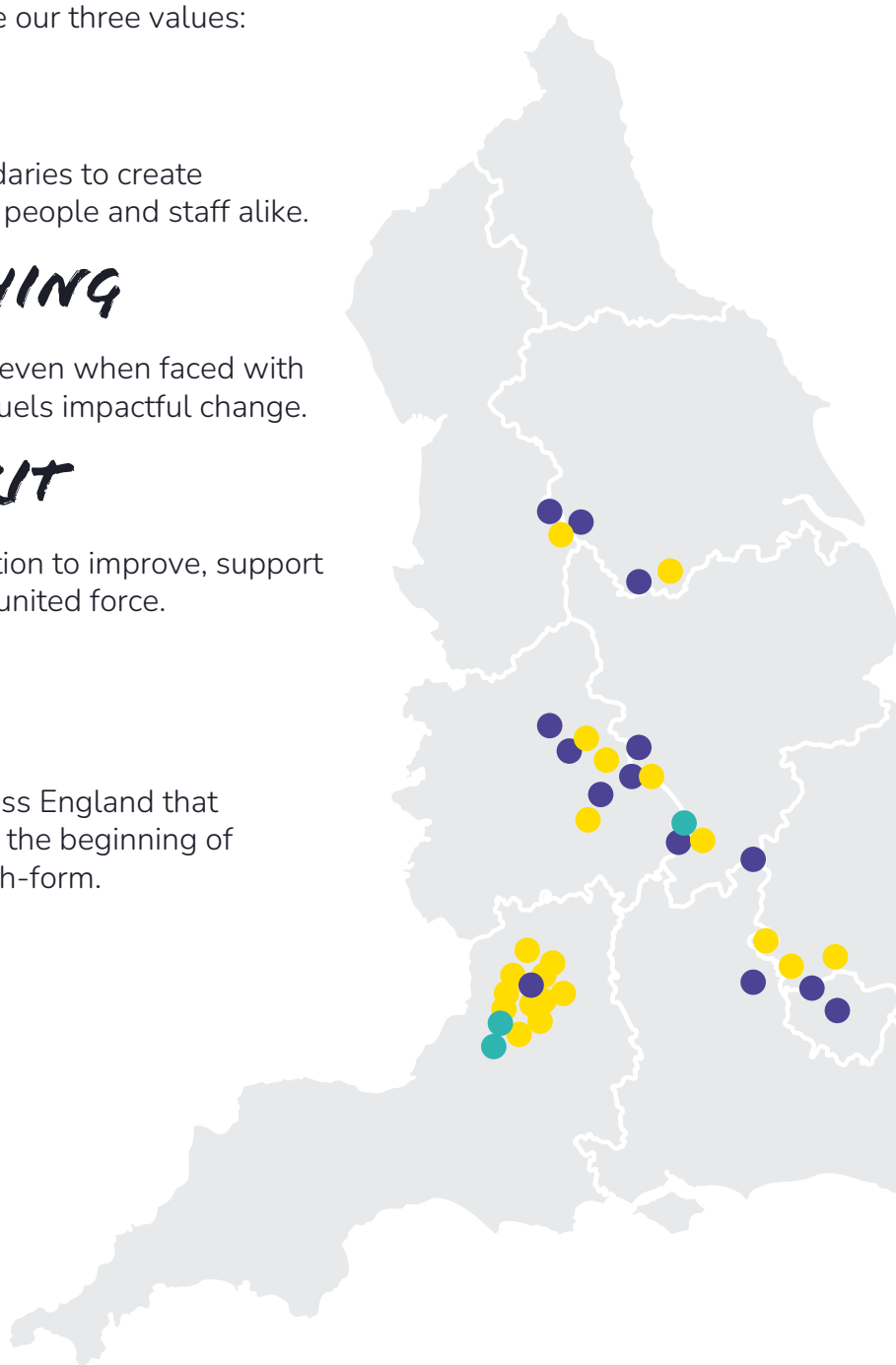
All-through Academies



Primary Academies



Secondary Academies



OUR PRIORITIES

To put it simply, we are on a very clear mission.

We believe that it's our duty and privilege to change lives of our young people across England. And to achieve this we need the very best people working with us.

Do these priorities resonate
with **YOU?**



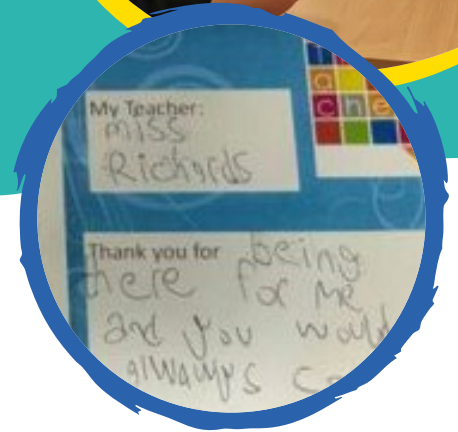
Did you answer **YES?**

Then **YOU** are what we're
looking for! Read on

People-first, always!

At E-ACT, we genuinely prioritise a people-first culture. We have developed our People Strategy to be a cornerstone of our Opening Minds, Opening Doors Strategy, playing a vital role in achieving our strategic priorities. This forward-looking strategy outlines our aspirations as an employer and envisions the experience of being part of the E-ACT family.

Every single role within E-ACT is crucial to fulfilling our mission. Whether you work in the classroom, the office, our national teams, or on our grounds, your contribution is valued and essential.



Our People Strategy has eight key objectives, each aimed at creating a supportive, inclusive, and dynamic environment for all.

How many mean something to YOU?





We invest in **YOU**

You've heard about our People Strategy, and the very first principle is our commitment to Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for educational excellence. We believe that when our educators and leaders grow, so do the students they serve.

We have a dedicated learning team that works across our entire trust, ensuring that all staff have access to the best resources and support. Additionally, we offer countless networking opportunities so you can connect with like-minded individuals across the trust.



I feel really energised and grateful to work in a trust that invests so much thought and care in its staff.

James Hughes,
Education Director – Primary



What do we **OFFER?**

Quite simply, we offer training and professional development for each and every one of our staff – which means our offering is large (very large!).

Here is a snapshot of what we offer:



Middle Leadership

- Diversifying Excellence in Leadership
- Early Years Clusters
- Aspiring SENDco Course

Senior Leadership

- Peer Review Training
- Exceptional Senior Leaders
- Road to Headship

Professional Services

- Apprenticeships
- Sector-leading Qualifications
- Strategic leader development

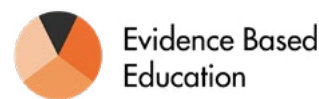
Qualifications

We partner with National Institute of Teaching to ensure our staff get the best possible training for their own growth.

The National Professional Qualifications we offer include:

- NPQEL (Executive Leadership)
- NPQH (Headship)
- NPQ SENCo (Special Educational Needs)
- NPQ LEY (Leading Early Years)
- NPQ LT (Leading Teaching)

Our Partners



Networking

Remember when we said we have a people-first culture?

We all thrive better together when we collaborate with like-minded people. We bring together our colleagues and other professionals from across the sector to join forces at our E-ACT Ideas Conference.

Our conferences represent what we are about, showcasing our diverse, passionate people.

E-ACT Ideas Conferences include



Women in Leadership

Bridging the Gap

Early Years Conference

THIS IS US!

#WeAreEACT

Sometimes, pictures just speak a thousand words. We celebrate our people—students, staff, and the communities we serve—through our annual events:



STAFF IMPACT AWARDS

The Staff Impact Awards shine a light on our dedicated colleagues who have made significant contributions to our Trust. These awards honour individuals and teams who have gone above and beyond in their roles, demonstrating excellence and commitment to our mission.





NATIONAL PUPIL CELEBRATION EVENTS

Our National Pupil Celebration Events bring together an extraordinary display of talent, creativity, and inspiration from across the Trust. These events showcase the diverse range of student achievements in areas such as music, poetry, art, and sports.



OUR BENEFITS



> Financial and Lifestyle

Generous Pension: Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) or Teachers Pension Scheme (TPS) - both defined benefit schemes

Life Cover: 3x pensionable pay

Cycle to Work: for healthy commuting

Annual Leave: 31 days for year-round employees

E-ACT

At E-ACT, we care about you and are committed to supporting your wellbeing, both in your role and beyond.

Our benefits package is thoughtfully designed to help you stay healthy, develop professionally, and maintain a balanced lifestyle.



> Professional Growth and Development

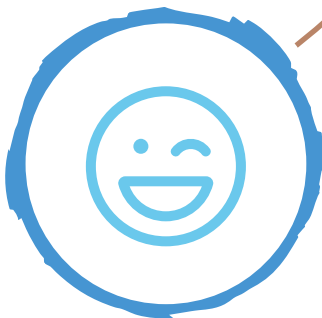
Opportunities: excellent Professional Development and Learning for all

Investment in staff development: including bespoke and tailored Trust INSET days

TLR progression: automatic progression through TLRs for teaching staff

Teacher pay scale: 9-point teacher scale from M1 to UPS3

TLR Payments: Full TLR payment for part-time teachers carrying out full responsibilities



> Culture and Wellbeing

People-first culture: that values every colleague

Employee Assistance Programme: free confidential counselling, financial advice, and more

Wisdom Wellbeing App: to support mental health and wellbeing

Collaborative working: we value teamwork and collaboration, encouraging a culture of shared knowledge and collective success.



READY



RESPECTFUL



SAFE



THIS IS US!



Visits to the Academy

How do you know if it's right unless you try? We always welcome candidates to our academy before the interview so you can truly get a feel for the place.



Fill Out Your Application Form

This is important! We can only accept applicants who fully complete our application form. This is due to safeguarding

References

Your referees will only be contacted if you are shortlisted.

You will need to provide two references:

1. From your most recent employer
2. Second reference details



Shortlisting

All of our shortlisting will be made against the criteria of the job role. Applicants who meet the specification will be invited to an interview.

Checks

If you attend the interview, don't forget to bring:

1. Photographic identification
2. Proof of the right to work in the UK
3. Proof of qualifications



Offer of Employment

We're excited to offer the successful candidate a job! We'll start with a phone call to share the good news, followed by a written offer sent via email or post. Please remember, this offer depends on satisfactory references, enhanced DBS clearance, and other necessary safeguarding checks.

If you're not selected this time, we'll let you know by email. Thank you for your interest!



How to *APPLY*

We hope this pack has given you a valuable insight into our Academy and Trust and the exciting opportunities we offer. We warmly invite you to visit us and experience the Academy in action.

If you would like to arrange a visit or have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us using the details below. We look forward to meeting you and welcoming your application!

E-ACT Recruitment Team

✉ Email: recruit@e-act.org.uk

Thank you for your interest. We look forward to receiving your application.

Please read the supporting documentation carefully before completing and returning our application and equal opportunities form. If this role isn't quite right but you are interested in joining our talent pool then please email recruit@e-act.org.uk.

E-ACT is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults, and all appointments are subject to enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) checks and satisfactory references. E-ACT is also committed to promoting equality, challenging discrimination and developing community cohesion. We welcome applications from all sections of the community.

E-ACT

OPENING MINDS,
OPENING DOORS

Find your

THINK BIG



Sign up to our talent pool to receive the
latest vacancies and news from E-ACT

#WeAreEACT



@educationeact



@E-ACTlearning

#thinkbig | #dotherightthing | #teamspirit