

PROSPECTUS 2019-2020



Joseph Leckie
Academy

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**“PROVIDING A SAFE
AND CHALLENGING
ENVIRONMENT
WHICH MAXIMISES
OPPORTUNITIES”**

*Winners of the
AMEY Challenge Cup 2017*



Keith Whittlestone

WELCOMES YOU

I am delighted to welcome you to Joseph Leckie Academy. I understand that choosing a secondary school is one of the most important decisions you will make and that is why our prospectus is designed to help you make a really informed decision.



We strongly believe that your child is entitled to a fulfilling and enjoyable learning experience. Here at Joseph Leckie Academy we provide just that thanks to our caring and committed staff, outstanding technological and state-of-the-art computing facilities.

Our approach is founded on understanding the importance of the partnership between you, as parents, the Academy and your child. We emphasise traditional standards of uniform, good manners, discipline and respect whilst providing a very relevant and modern education, which will help our students succeed both in the workplace and in society in general.

We strive to ensure that students of all abilities do exceptionally well at Joseph Leckie Academy and work tirelessly to foster the positive relationships that exist between students and staff.

We are proud of our exam results with on average 70% of our students gaining 5 or more GCSEs at A*-C. Most of our students remain with us for sixth form study and go on to take places at established universities.

I am privileged to be the Principal of Joseph Leckie Academy. It is a school where staff really care for students and go to tremendous lengths to help them succeed. There have been excellent improvements over recent years and we are continually striving to transform the learning experience for our students.

We understand that the prospectus can only tell you so much and we invite you to visit us and see what we offer. Our Open Evening and Open Days provide a great opportunity to meet staff members.

We look forward to welcoming you to our Academy.

Handwritten signature of Keith Whittlestone in black ink.

Yours sincerely
Keith Whittlestone
Principal

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Learning at **JOSEPH LECKIE**



Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8)

Students in Years 7 and 8 will study the following subjects as part of the National Curriculum:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- History
- Geography
- Music
- Drama
- Personal Development Programme (PSHE & Citizenship)
- Physical Education
- Art
- Design and Technology: including Graphics, Resistant Materials, Food Technology and Textiles
- Information and Communication Technology (ICT)
- Modern Foreign Languages (French)
- Religious Education

Key Stage 4 (Years 9, 10 and 11)

At Joseph Leckie Academy, we understand the importance of students receiving an individual and well-balanced curriculum during these three vital years. Students have the option of studying a full and varied range of GCSE and vocational subjects which provide them with choices for their future progression.

The pace of learning is personalised so that students have the opportunity to take examinations when they are fully prepared, which may be before the end of Year 11.

In addition to these studies, students have the option to work towards Bronze, or Silver Awards from the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme alongside other extra curricular activities.



The Curriculum

It is our aim that students choosing Joseph Leckie Academy will achieve outstanding examination results because of the very high quality teaching. They will be taught by highly qualified teachers who provide the most enjoyable and beneficial experiences ensuring excellent progress throughout their time at the Academy.

“Strong relationships exist between pupils and the teachers, as a result the care for their personal development and well being is good”

Ofsted report 2017

Religious Education

In accordance with the 1988 Education Act, we provide religious education for all registered students, which is taught according to Walsall Children’s Services Agreed Syllabus. The Act does give parents the option of withdrawing their child from religious education lessons.

Collective Acts of Worship

We run a programme of weekly assemblies in Year groups, which we believe are valuable occasions where students have the opportunity to join together in reflection and celebration. Parents have the option to withdraw their child from these assemblies however we are pleased to say that no one has done so.

Homework

At Joseph Leckie Academy, we strongly believe that regular homework is vital in securing the very best results for our students. Not only does it consolidate what is learnt in lessons, but also encourages the development of self-discipline and independent study – essential skills for the future. Parents are actively encouraged to contact the form tutor if they have any concerns about the quality or quantity of homework set for their child via Ruler Parent. Parents can see their child’s homework using our ‘My Ed’ app - available to download from the App Store.

Careers Education and Guidance

The Academy has an in-house Careers Consultant from Connexions who is available for students. We provide a full programme of Careers Education and Guidance to all students from the ages of 11 to 19 and believe this to be a crucial part of learning.

In addition to this, work placements across a wide variety of careers areas are available to students in Year 11 and Post-16 Education. This will help broaden both their understanding and most importantly, the opportunities available to them in the world of work.





Sport

Joseph Leckie Academy has excellent sports facilities and encourages students to flourish. We aim to get students interested in a fit and healthy lifestyle by providing them with a broad range of physical activities. By doing this, we hope that our students will have a lifelong interest in physical fitness and develop skills that can be used after leaving the Academy.

“Lessons in personal development and a programme of assemblies and visiting speakers help pupils to understand how to stay safe and healthy. Inspectors saw how pupils engage thoughtfully and maturely during a Year 9 assembly.”

Ofsted report 2017

Our Sports Facilities:

- Newly refurbished sports hall including new floor, lighting and heating
- Gymnasium / dance studio
- 25m swimming pool
- Extensive playing fields for football, rounders, softball and athletics
- Tarmac netball courts





Meeting Individual Needs:

Personalised Learning

At Joseph Leckie Academy, we place great importance on recognising every student as an individual and we aim to match our teaching to their specific learning needs. We focus on providing personalised learning – assisted by the latest technology – for every student at the Academy. For further information on the support available regarding Special Education Needs and Disabilities, please contact the SENDCO, who is based at the Academy.

Pastoral Care

We believe in the importance of every student having a tutor who closely monitors attendance and academic progress, and who is available to support the students with any personal issues that may affect their academic performance. Time is set aside, four mornings per week, to set personal and academic targets, discuss citizenship and other issues. Students are also encouraged to become involved with Student Council affairs and planning for assemblies.

There is a strong pastoral system including heads of year, tutors, teachers, learning mentors and external agencies.

This means that all students are provided with advice, guidance and support to meet their individual needs.

Sixth Form / Post-16

We are proud that our Sixth Form is very successful and a popular choice for students. The large number of students studying in our Sixth Form gives us the opportunity to offer an extensive range of 'A' Level, Vocational 'A' Level and BTEC courses. We offer Post-16 students a wide range of programmes for all abilities and are pleased that progression to university and into good careers is at a high level.

House System

At Joseph Leckie Academy we operate a 'House System' to provide students with opportunities to take part in a variety of activities throughout the year. These activities include competitions, fund raising and opportunities to volunteer. The House System benefits students by providing healthy competition and allowing them to feel part of a community that encompasses students from different year groups working together to achieve a common goal.



“

Outcomes in the Sixth Form are good”

Ofsted report 2017

Enriched Learning

We do understand that lessons are crucial but we are just as passionate about ensuring students have the best experience possible during all of their time with us. To achieve this we run an extensive sports programme and provide coaching of a very high standard. We are proud of the fact that many students represent Walsall in a number of sporting events including football, netball, athletics and basketball, to name but a few.

Out-of-hours clubs and subject support programmes are also popular with our students and they are encouraged to participate in a range of trips and visits including The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, residential outdoor events and educational and foreign visits.

The Academy's annual talent competition, Lex Factor, enables students to showcase talents in singing, dancing or playing musical instruments.

Sex and Relationships Education

As part of educational law, we provide Sex and Relationships Education for all students and details of our Sex Education Policy is available on request. Parents do have the option to withdraw their child from these lessons, if required.

Attendance

Students are more likely to succeed when their attendance is good. For this reason, we are committed to making every effort to ensure regular attendance. Our students are registered electronically, in every lesson and we have a dedicated team of attendance staff who monitor attendance, absence and provide effective support to ensure students maximise learning opportunities.

Student Mentoring

Mentoring is an effective way of helping students to make the most of their potential and build their confidence. A team of mentors work with students across all years in the Academy. They provide guidance, encouragement and support while challenging the students to develop their skills and take responsibility for their own progress.



“The behaviour of pupils is good. Pupils behave well in lessons, at break and at lunchtime as they move around the buildings”

Ofsted report 2017





“ Good attention is paid to developing pupils’ personal development through a range of extra-curricular activities and opportunities. The school’s work to promote pupils’ personal development and welfare is good. ”

Ofsted report 2017

Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

Since becoming an academy, Joseph Leckie has retained its technological ethos. We are richly equipped with the latest ICT facilities, including over 1060 high-speed internet linked computers, interactive whiteboards and a state-of-the-art video conferencing suite and many more facilities to support personalised and advanced learning. At the Academy, ICT plays an important part in every subject. We also offer a variety of examination courses in ICT and Computer Science.

The Academy’s commitment to its technological ethos is reflected in the emphasis we place on effectively using new technologies for learning. The Academy has invested in Ruler Classroom/Ruler Parent, where students, staff and parents can engage collaboratively in the learning process.



WORLD CLASS NEW BUILD FOR JOSEPH LECKIE ACADEMY



Artist's impression of the new teaching facilities

Joseph Leckie Academy has been awarded £3.89 million for world class teaching and learning facilities.

Staff and students at Joseph Leckie Academy are celebrating the award of 3.89 million from the Education Funding Agency which will be used to build a new teaching block which will be opened in November 2019.

The new block will consist of 14 classrooms as well as small group classrooms and curriculum office / storage spaces. The classrooms will be used for teaching modern foreign languages, business studies, music, health, social and child care and learning support / special educational needs. In addition to these classrooms there will be a new entrance / foyer and reception areas as well as administrative offices and reprographics facilities.

All of the new classrooms will be fully wi – fi enabled and fitted with the latest smart boards and teaching walls so that teaching and learning is more active and interactive providing teachers with the potential to enhance and enrich the learning experience for all of the learners.

New landscaping and social areas to include seating, one or two multi use game areas (MUGAS) and a running track will enhance the environment and the Academy.

The Academy will also put in a bid next December for a further £4 million from the Education Funding Agency which if successful will provide further state of the art facilities for Sixth Form teaching rooms, private study and social areas, dining, kitchen and administrative spaces.

This grant of £3.89 million will be supplemented by a significant amount from the Academy's budget to provide world class teaching facilities which will boost the students and staff alike.

As a result of £3.89 million of construction work, the East End of the main teaching block which for many years has formed part of the iconic frontage on Walstead Road West will be demolished and replaced with a two-storey structure, which features modern heating, lighting and ventilation systems to ensure excellent energy efficiency. This investment in our Academy will further transform the learning environment for our students and their teachers. Ensuring that all of our students have access to the best possible facilities is part of our commitment to help them to reach their potential. These buildings will provide ultra -modern, fit-for-purpose facilities for our students for many years to come.



Transition

MOVING TO THE ACADEMY

A Welcoming Experience

To ensure a smooth transition from primary to secondary phase we employ a Transition Manager who designs and implements transition days. The Transition Manager visits local feeder primary schools in order to meet with prospective students to commence a successful professional relationship.

Once students arrive at Joseph Leckie, the Transition Manager works with students, families and staff to ensure that the academic and pastoral needs of students are fully met.

Students are paired with Year 8 mentors from the outset so that the students feel welcomed and comfortable.

The Year 7 team of form tutors are trained to meet the needs of younger students and to ensure that they settle quickly into their new school.

Head of Year 7 - Mr S Khan

We offer students high quality care, guidance and support to inspire them to achieve their fullest potential in and beyond their Academy life. As Head of Year 7, I personally look forward to welcoming all new Year 7 students and helping them during their transition, induction days and throughout their education journey, as students of Joseph Leckie Academy.

Head of Year 8 - Ms T Griffin

I see myself as the head of a big family, whom students and parents can contact at any time to help with any issues or concerns they may have. It is important that everyone feels that I am approachable and sympathetic to all needs and requests, that they are confident I act promptly and always work towards a positive solution. I want students to feel safe and secure in the knowledge that I will offer them 100% support at all times.

Head of Year 9 - Mrs D Etches

As Head of Year 9 I take this opportunity to welcome you to our Academy. I look forward to meeting you and you becoming a Joseph Leckie Hero. We believe in reaching for the stars. As you join our family, we will continue to move onwards and upwards - striving for excellence.

Head of Year 10 - Miss Simmonds

Each child is unique and we treat them as such. The well-being of each member of our Year 10 community is paramount and each student is supported by our strong team of friendly staff and form tutors. We seek to prepare our students for life in its richest sense, so each individual leaves Joseph Leckie Academy as a happy, confident and independent young person. We endeavour to provide each student in Year 10 with the opportunity and drive which will enable them to achieve beyond their expectations.

Head of Year 11 - Mrs A Devey

The vision of the Year 11 team is to develop all students to aspire to be their best with the knowledge and full support of the year team and their parents. In order to achieve, students must value learning. Year 11 students will show that they value learning through the choices they make. We have a designated Year 11 Study Centre where students are supported to help them to reach their full potential both academically and pastorally.

Head of Year 12/13 - Mr J Greaves

Sixth Form teachers are incredibly proud to offer students a wrap-around package of excellent teaching, clear and concise career guidance and strong moral support. The Sixth Form at Joseph Leckie Academy is an integral part of the Academy as a whole and is proud to support students with very successful applications to prestigious universities across the country.

Creating a Partnership **WITH PARENTS**

It is our view at Joseph Leckie Academy that responsibility for your child's education is shared.

For this reason, we believe it is essential that we work closely with parents to develop an effective partnership.

We warmly welcome any contribution that parents wish to make to Academy life, including listening to students read, working with small minority ethnic language groups, accompanying visits, assisting with sports events or participating in drama or musical productions.

Arrangements for Students with Disabilities and Special Needs

Joseph Leckie is an inclusive Academy and we welcome students with disabilities and special needs on an equal basis with other students. In recent years we have focused on improving our wheelchair access with ramps and disabled toilets and as a result, we are pleased to now be able to offer the full curriculum to disabled and wheelchair-using students. There are lifts in the Colin Beilby and Keith Whittlestone Buildings.

These new facilities are part of the on-going programme of renewing and improving access for disabled students. We also work in close partnership with relevant services provided by Walsall Children's Services to offer particular specialisms in teaching and supporting those students with a visual or hearing impairment.



“Attendance, punctuality, behaviour and attitude to learning are all excellent in the Sixth Form”

Ofsted report 2017

“Leaders provide a comprehensive enrichment programme to ensure that students receive a well rounded education and preparation for working life”

Ofsted report 2017

Joseph Leckie Academy and the Wider Community

In addition to being the local Academy for children in the Delves, Whitehall, Palfrey and Caldmore areas of Walsall, Joseph Leckie Academy also plays an important role in the wider community as an Extended School.

This gives us the opportunity to welcome a wide range of community groups who hire our buildings and make use of our extensive facilities throughout the year.



Life as a Student

AT JOSEPH LECKIE

We believe that in order for students to fulfil their potential, they need to feel secure, safe, supported and well-motivated.

To help achieve this, we place great importance on punctuality, pride in wearing the Academy uniform and in being prepared to work hard.



Mutual Respect

In our experience, students work to the best of their ability in a calm and disciplined learning environment. We foster this ethos and expect students to treat each other with respect, tolerance and consideration – both on and off the Academy site. We are clear in our standpoint that bullying of any kind is not to be tolerated and will always be dealt with quickly and in a firm manner.

The Academy Council

This group meets monthly and comprises representatives from each tutor group.

Members of the Council are encouraged to make suggestions for improvements to the Academy using a democratic process involving canvassing, election hustings and voting.

“ Data provided by the school during inspection ,shows that in 2017 the percentage of pupils achieving a GCSE Grade 4 in English and mathematics is higher than the percentage of pupils who achieved a grade C in both subjects in 2016 ”

Ofsted report 2017

Healthy Eating at Joseph Leckie Academy

We promote healthy eating at the Academy and offer a wide variety of nutritious meals daily from two dining outlets. These are open for breakfast, at break times and for lunch.

Recognising Achievement

At Joseph Leckie Academy, we all understand the importance of recognising and rewarding achievement at every level. We place great emphasis on this and award certificates in recognition of outstanding academic work, excellent attendance and punctuality. We also recognise and reward consistent effort, participation in the Academy’s community and community service to name a few.

Reward System

We use a reward system to award points to students for all types of positive behaviour – effort, progress, contribution and achievement. These VIVO points can be spent online on a wide range of products and can include donations to charity.

Celebrating Success

We organise an annual ‘Celebration of Achievement Evening’ for Years 11 to 13 which involves a guest speaker presenting students with their examination certificates. Through Year assemblies students receive acknowledgement for excellent work, and for individual awards to be presented for academic excellence, community service and excellent attendance.

Complaints Procedure

At Joseph Leckie Academy we pride ourselves on providing the highest quality education and care for your child. We do, however, acknowledge that there may be occasions where parents are dissatisfied and wish to make a formal complaint. We respect every parent’s right to do so and ask that you follow the correct procedure, which is available on request. Doing this will ensure that any complaint you have is dealt with as quickly as possible and in the correct manner. If your concern is of an informal nature, the relevant member of staff will welcome the opportunity to discuss this with you, and hope this will resolve the issue.



Useful Information (TERM DATES, LESSON TIMES, UNIFORMS)

Term Dates 2019/2020 Academic Year

Lesson Times

Autumn Term Dates

Tuesday 3rd September to Fri 25th October
(Monday 2nd September - staff only,
students return 3rd September)

Half Term Holiday
Monday 28th Oct to
Friday 1st November

**Monday 4th November to
Friday 20th December**

Christmas Holiday
Monday 23rd December - Friday 3rd January

Spring Term Dates

**Monday 6th January to
Thursday 13th February**

Half term Holiday
Monday 17th February to Friday 21st Feb 2019

**Monday 24th February 2020 to
Friday 3rd April 2020**

Easter Holiday
Monday 6th April - Friday 17th April 2019

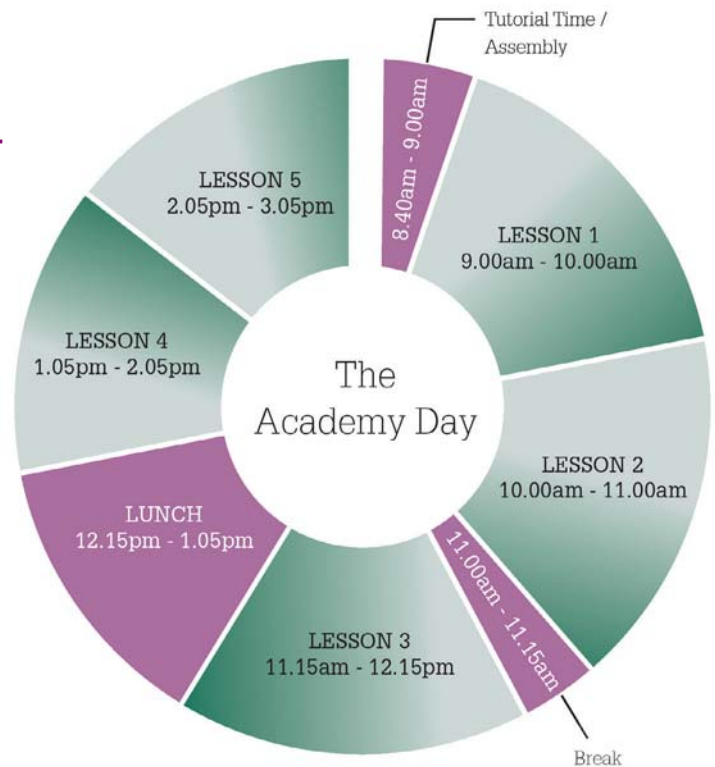
Summer Term Dates

Tuesday 21st April - Friday 22nd May 2020
(May Day 4th May 2020)

Half Term Holiday
Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May 2020

Summer Term

Monday 1st June to Friday 17th July 2020



The Academy Uniform

Boys

- 🍃 Bottle green blazer with badge sewn on by you
- 🍃 Silver grey v-neck jumper
- 🍃 Academy tie
- 🍃 White shirt with collar
- 🍃 Black trousers
- 🍃 Sturdy black low-heeled shoes

Girls

- 🍃 Bottle green blazer with badge sewn on by you
- 🍃 Silver grey v-neck jumper
- 🍃 Academy tie
- 🍃 White blouse with collar
- 🍃 Black skirt or trousers
- 🍃 Sturdy black low-heeled shoes
- 🍃 Grey Academy hijab

The reason for the sturdy shoes is that all students must study Technology and must have protection for their feet in workshops.

NB High heeled shoes and open toe shoes are potentially very dangerous in the Academy and must not be worn. Please see our Uniform Policy for further details.

Girls and Boys

- 🍃 Coats with slogans or writing on them are not allowed
- 🍃 Denim or leather clothing is not allowed
- 🍃 One ring may be worn
- 🍃 One bracelet may be worn
- 🍃 Earrings may not be worn but one pair of plain studs is acceptable

When students have had any other part of their body pierced, parents should be aware that those students will be required to remove any rings or studs whilst on site due to health and safety requirements.



The Joseph Leckie Academy tie range

PE Kit

Boys

Must have:

- 🍃 Maroon rugby shirt
- 🍃 Pumps or training shoes
- 🍃 Football boots
- 🍃 Black shorts or track trousers
- 🍃 White football socks
- 🍃 Shin pads
- 🍃 Swimming trunks
- 🍃 Shin pads

Optional extras:

- 🍃 White polo shirt (for indoor and summer)
- 🍃 Black zip sweatshirt (No hood)

Girls

Must have:

- 🍃 White polo shirt
- 🍃 Black shorts or track trousers
- 🍃 Pumps or training shoes
- 🍃 Football boots
- 🍃 White football socks
- 🍃 Shin pads
- 🍃 Swimming costume

Optional extras:

- 🍃 Black zip sweatshirt (No hood)

What our **STUDENTS SAY**

“The teachers at Joseph Leckie make sure that you understand what you are doing in lessons and for homework.”

Year 7 student

“We are expected to arrive on time with shoes and uniform looking good each day. Teachers expect you to take pride in your appearance and your work.”

Year 8 student

“Assemblies are the best part of the week. The best ones are the form assemblies because we take the assemblies in our form with a positive message for the rest of the year.”

Year 9 student

“Joseph Leckie is fun and I like the lunch and after school clubs we can attend.”

Year 7 student

“I have made lots of friends since I started at Leckie. I was a bit worried coming from primary school, but my tutor and the staff looked after me.”

Year 7 student

“You get a lot of support towards your exams. We have period six every night. They also put on extra classes in the holidays. The teachers want us to do well and pass all of our exams.”

Year 11 student

“The support towards university applications was excellent. UCAS Week was really important when I was applying to university this year. The information we were given by lecturers and employers was really useful when I was trying to decide what to do next year. We all have a tutor to support us when writing personal statements.”

Year 13 student

“I like the teachers and my Head of Year at Joseph Leckie. They really care about you doing well at school and look after you if you are down.”

Year 8 student

WHAT NEXT?

After finding out more about the positive learning experiences that we can offer your children, we hope you will apply for a place. We encourage you and your children to visit us on our **Open Evening** on **Thursday 26th September 2019** from **6:00pm to 9:00pm**, where you will have the opportunity to meet members of staff and students and ask any questions you may have.

TO APPLY FOR A PLACE, LIST JOSEPH LECKIE ACADEMY ON THE WALSALL PREFERENCE FORM AND RETURN IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BEFORE THE DEADLINE OCTOBER 31ST 2019 TO THE ADDRESS ON THE FORM



How to **FIND US**

By Car

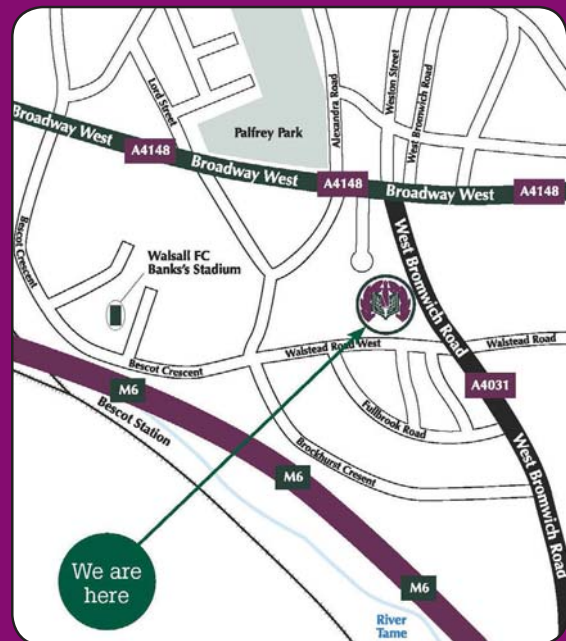
We are half a mile from Walsall Football Club's ground, Banks's Stadium, which is sign posted off the Broadway.

By Bus

Bus Service 4 and 402 pass the school on the West Bromwich Road and the 401 stops outside the Academy on Walstead Road.

By Train

Bescot Station is on the line from Walsall to Birmingham and is opposite Walsall Football Club



**Joseph Leckie
Academy**

Getting in touch

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