

# the

sixth form

...realise  
your  
potential

Darwen Aldridge  
Community Academy



An Academy specialising in Entrepreneurship

## Message From The Principal

I am delighted that you are considering the Sixth Form at Darwen Aldridge Community Academy. In our first two years we have seen a rapid growth in numbers of students joining us both from the Academy and partner secondary schools. We expect this popularity to continue into the future.

In September 2010, we move to our new, fantastic purpose built facilities located in the centre of Darwen. The Sixth Form Centre is integrated into the new Academy building and will provide an excellent learning environment for our students. Our determination is that our students will receive the best education experience and the highest levels of support to enable them to achieve their full potential

**Brendan Loughran**

## Howard McWilliam - Director Post-16

The Sixth Form at Darwen Aldridge Community Academy is a special and dynamic place of learning where the interests of our students sit right at the heart of everything we do. Because our unique specialism of entrepreneurship is reflected in every aspect of Academy life I believe that what is on offer in the Sixth Form is very different from that which you will find anywhere else.

Our culture of excellent teaching, high expectations, distinctive business ethos, the way we look and go about our work, wide range of qualifications, leadership and enrichment opportunities and strong partnerships combine to provide you with an all round first class Sixth Form education which will help you make an outstanding start to your adult life.

The Sixth Form will enable you to specialise in your studies as well as try new and challenging experiences. It is also a time to make real choices about your future, whether it be university, employment or further specialist training, under the guidance of an experienced and knowledgeable team of tutors and teachers. However, we never forget that this is your Sixth Form and we want you to have a strong voice in its day-to-day life and in shaping its future.

Your success and happiness are the most important things for us, and we will endeavour to make your time in the Sixth Form as enjoyable and rewarding as possible.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or would like a guided tour.

I very much look forward to meeting you here.

**Howard McWilliam**

## The Academy's Sixth Form

We aim to provide you with an outstanding pre-university or pre-employment experience which will help you to achieve the good qualifications and skills you will need to successfully meet the demands of an increasingly complex and challenging world.

There are many benefits to be had from joining the Academy's Sixth Form:

- You will get the best of both worlds. i.e. all that is good about a school with the freedoms and flexibility that come with 16 - 19 study, if you like, "a college within the Academy"
- Teachers are experts in their subjects: your lessons will be relevant, interesting and thought-provoking.
- You will develop skills highly prized by employers and universities such as creativity, innovation, leadership, teamwork, risk taking, decision-making and challenging convention.
- A wide range of courses to cater for all interests
- As much as possible lessons will be tailored to suit your individual learning requirement
- Small tutor groups to ensure high quality personalised support and guidance from tutors who really know you.
- We will regularly monitor your progress in all subjects and discuss this with you.
- Help your CV to really stand out by getting involved in our broad range of enrichment activities
- A friendly and supportive environment in which to study and develop as a young adult
- You may be entitled to EMA of up to £30 per week, and a bonus paid twice each year.
- The Sixth Form has its own well resourced facilities
- Enrol in the UK's first Entrepreneurship Career Academy and give your future a real head start.
- Advice and support in starting up your own successful business within our Entrepreneurship Bridge





## Post-16 Courses From September 2010

### LEVEL 3

(A Level, BTEC National and OCR National)

The following courses are planned subject to student demand:

#### A Level

Accounting	History
Art & Design	Law
Biology	Mathematics
Business Studies	Media & Film Studies
Chemistry	Music
Critical Thinking	Philosophy & Ethics
Dance	Photography
Drama & Theatre Studies	Physics
Economics	Product Design
English Language	Psychology
English Literature	Sociology
English Literature & Language	Spanish
Fine Art	Textiles
French	3-D Design
Geography	

#### BTEC National & OCR National

Aerospace Engineering	IT
Art & Design	Performing Arts
Business	Public Services
Forensic Science	Sport
Graphic Design	Travel & Tourism
Health & Social Care	

### LEVEL 2

The following courses are planned subject to student demand:

GCSE English (resit)	BTEC Performing Arts
GCSE Mathematics (resit)	BTEC Sport
GCSE Science (resit)	BTEC Travel & Tourism
GCSE Spanish	OCR IT
GCSE German	NVQ 2 Instructing Exercise & Fitness
BTEC Business	NVQ 2 Sport Coaching (Football)
BTEC Health & Social Care	

### LEVEL 1

The following course is planned subject to student demand.

NVQ 1 Hospitality & Catering

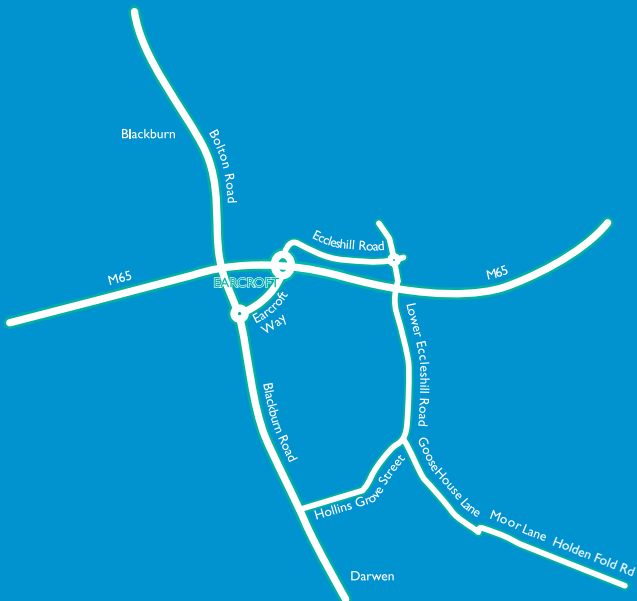


Wherever possible we allow you to mix qualifications so that you can follow the combination of courses that will enable you to do your best.

Our enrichment curriculum takes place on a Wednesday afternoon and during Session 3. We offer a varied range of activities for you to get involved in such as:

- Extended Project
- Entrepreneurship Career Academy
- Extended Learning Week
- Opportunities for developing the student voice e.g. Academy Council
- Critical Thinking
- Sporting, drama and musical activities
- Social entrepreneurship and volunteering
- Supporting the learning of younger students e.g. Literacy Support
- Leadership roles e.g. Student Ambassador or helping to run a club
- Support and guidance in starting up your own business
- A wide range of complementary activities e.g. Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, street dance, self defence
- Domestic & international visits

If you aspire to go to university in the UK or abroad you will receive intensive support, coaching and guidance to help you make the strongest application you possibly can. In Year 12 you will also have the opportunity to visit several universities, attend the annual UCAS Higher Education Fair, hear about Gap Years and speak with university admissions tutors. If you are intending to apply to Oxford or Cambridge you will receive the additional specialised support this requires. We will also help you arrange the work experience which you will need to have if you are going to be successful in applying for competitive courses such as medicine, dentistry, engineering, law, accounting & finance, veterinary medicine and architecture etc.



## Darwen Aldridge Community Academy



**For more information and to download our  
application form please go to:**

[www.daca.uk.com](http://www.daca.uk.com)

For a guided tour, prospectus or any  
other enquiry please contact

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