

Star Radcliffe Academy

Frequently Asked Questions



General Enquiry FAQs

Question	Star Radcliffe Academy
When will the school open?	The school is proposed to open in September 2024.
How can I find out more about the school?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit our website www.starradcliffe.org • Follow us on X @StarRadcliffe (formerly known as Twitter) https://twitter.com/StarRadcliffe
Where will the school be located?	<p>Star Radcliffe Academy, Spring Lane, Radcliffe, Greater Manchester, M26 2SZ</p> <p>The school will open in temporary accommodation and move to its permanent building in summer 2025.</p>
What will the permanent accommodation look like?	<p>Star Radcliffe Academy will be located on Spring Lane in Radcliffe in a brand-new state of the art campus. The permanent building and campus will be open from summer 2025. Once complete, the permanent campus will boast:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • modern classrooms featuring the latest technology • specialist teaching spaces for food technology, graphics and art • contemporary science laboratories • a spacious learning resource centre • IT rich spaces with 3D printing • activity studio suitable for dance and drama • three court sports hall • multi-use games area • 3G all-weather pitch
What will the temporary accommodation look like?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the first year of opening, the school will be based in temporary teaching facilities housed on the academy site. • The location of the temporary facilities will be on the adjacent separate site where the leisure centre and car park are currently. • Facilities will include science and other practical, as well as kitchen and dining, plus general classrooms and sports changing. The existing synthetic turf pitch will be utilised and there will be an area for informal play. • When the new building is in use the temporary site will then become the pick-up and drop off facilities for the school.

Question	Star Radcliffe Academy
How many pupils will the school admit?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the opening year (2024-2025), the school will admit 150 pupils to Year 7. • The school will continue to recruit a new intake of 150 Year 7 pupils in successive years. The school will have 750 places when it reaches its full capacity in 2028.
How large will the classes be?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school will be 5 form entry and have approximately 30 pupils per class, although in some subjects this will vary.
What will the term dates be?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The academy will operate a school year constituting 196 days. • The academy will consult on the calendar on a yearly basis but intends to operate the normal three terms per autumn to fit in with Bury Council’s holiday pattern and minimise disruption. • Term dates for the 2024-2025 academic year are available for download on the school website Term Dates Star Radcliffe Academy
How will the school manage behaviour?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Star has high expectations of pupils’ behaviour, attendance and punctuality. • Our approach to ensuring the highest standards of behaviour is embodied in our Behave Like a Star programme. These expectations are reinforced daily through practising and embedding routines, reminding pupils about rules, and staff modelling standards of conduct. • The Star rewards scheme, which also contributes to the achievement of the Star Diploma, affirms and incentivises positive behaviour.
How will the school manage attendance?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance and punctuality in Star schools is monitored on a daily basis. • Where problems arise, parents are contacted immediately and, if necessary, support plans are put in place with the involvement of other agencies where appropriate. • Good attendance is rewarded and counts towards the Star Diploma.
How will the school safeguard its pupils?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As in all Star schools, Star Radcliffe Academy will have a designated safeguarding lead who will be responsible for ensuring that the trust’s safeguarding policies and procedures are implemented and updated regularly. We will also have a designated lead Governor for safeguarding/child protection on the Governing Body. • All adults who regularly work on our site will be required to undergo a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check to prevent unsuitable people from working with pupils. • All visitors will be closely supervised when on site. • Staff will have the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to keep children safe through provision of regular training on child protection issues. • We will have clear procedures in place where any potential safeguarding concerns are identified. We will share information with other public bodies – within agreed protocols.

Question	Star Radcliffe Academy
<p>How will the school support pupils' health and wellbeing?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Star schools are committed to supporting the mental health and emotional wellbeing of both pupils and staff. • Staff are trained in the use of our School Support Pack, which sets out a whole school approach to pupils' mental health and emotional well-being. • All staff will be trained in how to recognise warning signs of common mental health problems. Accredited Youth Mental Health First Aiders will be available within school. • The skills, knowledge and understanding needed by pupils to keep themselves mentally healthy and safe will be an integral part of the Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum. • Personal support plans will be put in place for pupils requiring targeted support for their emotional wellbeing. • We recognise that physical health is an important contributor to well-being and will ensure that opportunities for sport are built into the curriculum and out-of-school enrichment programme at Star Radcliffe Academy.
<p>What curriculum do you follow?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school adopts a broad and balanced curriculum, with a focus on educational excellence, character development and service to communities. • Our curriculum includes all the subjects of the national curriculum at key stage 3 (English, mathematics, science, art and design, citizenship, computing, design and technology, geography, history, languages, music, physical education). All pupils follow a religious studies course based on the local agreed syllabus. • The vast majority of pupils will complete the English Baccalaureate suite of subjects at key stage 4 (English language, English literature, mathematics, science, a foreign language and a humanities subject). They can also select from high-status vocational options linked to future employment. All pupils receive physical education at key stage 4 and some choose to take a qualification in the subject. • For pupils for whom alternative qualifications may be more appropriate, the school will provide personal pathways or vocational qualifications to ensure that their needs are met. • Assessment – pupils' academic progress will be assessed throughout their time at school to ensure that they are on course to achieve the best possible grades at GCSE. There will be regular reporting to parents to ensure they understand their child's progress. Teachers will provide lots of support and encouragement to take away any fear of assessment. • Leadership specialism – like all Star schools, Star Radcliffe Academy will have a leadership specialism to develop confidence, character and self-esteem. The Specialism will encourage community volunteering, charity work and participation in competitions and civic activities. • Additional Support – Star schools are inclusive organisations where all pupils are expected and supported to achieve their full potential. We have well developed approaches to support any pupil who may have difficulties or challenges in benefiting from the curriculum offer. This includes pupils with special educational needs and

Question	Star Radcliffe Academy
	<p>disabilities; pupils with social, emotional and mental health needs; those who are eligible for the pupil premium; and high ability pupils.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading - Our Star Readers programme ensures that all pupils read high quality literature that expands their vocabulary and introduces them to the work of renowned authors. Disciplinary specific reading programmes are designed to support pupils in developing their vocabulary in specific subjects, such as science and mathematics, so that they can increasingly understand and communicate complex technical ideas. We use the ReadingWise intervention to support any pupil who has fallen behind with their reading.
<p>What intervention strategies will the school put in place to support learning?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers will pitch learning high and support any pupils who require additional help through interventions and approaches that are tried and tested. • Pupils may be invited to attend additional tuition sessions at lunchtime or outside normal school hours, at weekends and during school holidays for specific purposes. • These sessions are always offered as a supportive measure to meet individual needs.
<p>Could you tell me more about your other schools?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Star Academies is one of the country's leading multi-academy trusts. • Schools are among the country's most successful state schools. • Our schools achieve some of the best examination results in the country. • Several of the trust's 33 schools regularly feature at the top of the DfE's performance tables for Progress 8 and attendance, and many have been judged outstanding by Ofsted. • All free schools opened by Star that have been inspected by Ofsted have been judged as either good or outstanding. • As well as achieving excellent academic results, Star schools are committed to the personal development of our young people.
<p>Could you tell me more about the Trust?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Star Academies is a high-achieving, not-for-profit Multi-Academy Trust (MAT). • We run a diverse network of primary and secondary schools. • We are a values-based organisation, committed to enhancing social mobility. • Star schools work together as Star Partnerships in five cluster areas: Lancashire, Greater Manchester, West Yorkshire, the Midlands and London. Star Radcliffe Academy will be part of the Greater Manchester partnership and will collaborate with our other schools in this partnership to share expertise and maximise opportunities and experiences for our pupils. This helps to maintain a "family feel" and focus on strong community links.
<p>Will the school have the Governing Body?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Local Accountability Board will be established as part of the overall governance structure.

Admissions FAQs

Question	Star Radcliffe Academy
<p>Can I still apply to the school even though the deadline has passed?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, even though it will be considered as a late application. The child’s details will be added to the waiting list. Offers will be made on 1 March 2024 to those that applied by the closing date of 31 October 2023. If those offered a place do not wish to accept the place, replacement offers will be sent out to families whose child’s details are on the waiting list after 1 March 2024. • Applications are made directly to Star Academies and can be sent either by email or post: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Admissions Team, Star Academies, Shadsworth Road, Blackburn, Lancashire BB1 2HT. ○ Email: admissions@starradcliffe.org ○ Tel: 0330 313 9137 • Application forms can be downloaded directly from the Star Radcliffe Academy website and completed electronically, or Star will send a copy in the post. • Applications are NOT managed through the Local Authority in the pre-opening year.
<p>Is the process different if I live in a different local authority area?</p>	<p>No. All applications are made directly to Star.</p>
<p>If applications are direct to Star, do I need to inform my LA that I have applied to Star Radcliffe Academy?</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>I have applied to another school as part of the LA admissions process and have been offered a place at another school. Does an application to Star Radcliffe Academy affect that application?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All applications to Star Radcliffe Academy must be made directly to Star and this is a separate process to the LA. • After closing, Star will consider your application alongside all other applications to Star Radcliffe Academy. All applications will be considered without any reference to applications you may have made through the LA. • If offered a place at Star Radcliffe Academy, it will be up to you whether to accept the school place offered through the LA or the place at Star Radcliffe Academy. • You should not reject your current LA offer until you have been offered a place at Star Radcliffe Academy.
<p>If you receive more applications than places, how will places be allocated?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Admissions Policy is available for download from the school website which sets out the oversubscription criteria Admissions to the Academy Star Radcliffe Academy
<p>When will I find out if I have been successful?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On national offer day – 1st March 2024.

Question	Star Radcliffe Academy
How will I find out if I have been offered a place?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Star will send you a letter notifying you of the outcome of your application. • If you have been offered a place, you will need to return an acceptance slip to Star. • You should also receive a letter from the LA about the school you applied for in their process. • You will need to decide which offer you wish to accept – Star Radcliffe Academy or Local Authority School.
If I am not offered place, what would the next steps be?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You will be advised of the right to appeal the decision before an Independent Appeal Panel. • Full details of the admissions arrangements for Star Radcliffe Academy can be found on the academy website.

Recruitment FAQs

Question	Star Radcliffe Academy
Does the school follow national pay and conditions?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes. The trust has a recognised agreement with National Unions and is a living wage employer.
When will jobs be advertised?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The core recruitment drive will start from January 2024 onwards.
Where will jobs be advertised?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All posts will be advertised through Jobtrain: https://www.jobtrain.co.uk/starcareers/vacancies.aspx?lstLocation=41
Can I register my interest in vacancies now?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email alerts can be set up to receive updates when a suitable role is available. This can be done via the school website: Current Vacancies - Star Radcliffe Academy • Alternatively, you can sign up to the Star Talent Pool by completing an online form. We'll use this information to match you to future roles, give you access to exclusive recruitment events and provide regular contact with a member of our recruitment team.