

Site announced for One Degree Academy

We are delighted to announce that One Degree Academy has secured its permanent site in Enfield. The Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) has been working with One Degree Academy to secure the 3.7-acre site as part of an exciting new development at Chase Farm Hospital. The site will house One Degree Academy's primary phase in brand new buildings and state-of-the-art educational facilities from September 2020.

Until our new home is complete, we are very pleased to confirm that we will continue to be located at Heron Hall in Ponders End, in outstanding accommodation minutes from Southbury Station. Our current site has excellent bus links to the Chase Farm development which is just 3 miles away. Here, we are building on the great start we've made, working tirelessly with parents and the local community to realise our vision of university readiness for all our children.

As a new and small school, One Degree Academy provides students in Enfield a rare opportunity to attend a world class and meticulously planned learning experience. We focus heavily on the basics - reading, writing and maths - as well as on developing in our children character attributes to help them flourish. Our aspirations are simple and ambitious: through inspirational teaching, every One Degree Academy student will develop the knowledge, attributes and aspirations to succeed at university and in a productive career. Students, staff and parents will 'strive for excellence: step-by-step.'

"Our goal is that, regardless of background, every child leaves One Degree with the knowledge, character attributes and aspirations necessary for a life of choice and opportunity."

--Riaz Shah, Chair of Governors, One Degree Academy

One Degree Academy is a state-funded Free School, (Free Schools are "brand new state-funded schools. They are independent of local council control and have with the freedom to innovate and respond directly to the needs of parents and the local community." -DfE). Our school was one of 35 to be approved in 2014. (See DfE announcement [here](#).)

"We aim to transform the lives of our students through our persistent and relentless focus on the small but important details and actions necessary for great teaching and learning. We know that greatness is achieved through perseverance and incremental improvement - 'one degree' at a time. This idea is at the heart of our school."

-- Aidan Sadgrove, Principal, One Degree Academy

In partnership with the Enfield community, One Degree Academy will meet some of the challenges faced in the local area, not least of which is a shortage of school places - with over 146,000 school places needed over the next 5 years in London due to a 12% rise in the school-age population. The



approval of the One Degree Academy secures central government funding for a new school in the Enfield area.

Notes for Editors

- One Degree Academy, approved as a school for 4- to 18-year-olds, has been put forward by the team behind the tried and tested One Degree Programme in Brent. The programme mentors local young people to develop their self-belief and transform their academic performance.
- The school is currently based in temporary accommodation in Ponders End and comprises of Reception and Year 1 children.
- The Chase Farm site will accommodate the Academy's 3FE primary phase from September 2020. The ESFA will continue to search for an appropriate site for One Degree's secondary phase to allow us to deliver our vision of all-through education. If the ESFA cannot find a suitable site for One Degree Academy, we will remain as Primary only.
- The team behind One Degree Academy has a track record of success having been involved in the founding of King Solomon Academy and Reach Academy Feltham, two outstanding non-selective schools.
- The school has very high expectations and aspirations for its students. The school's curriculum will give students a global perspective and prepare children well for life in modern Britain through its innovative STRIVE curriculum.
- It is inspired by the success of schools like KIPP in the US, and King Solomon Academy, and Reach Academy Feltham here in London.
- The team includes:
 - **Aidan Sadgrove, Principal** -- Aidan Sadgrove is the Founding Principal of One Degree Academy. He came into teaching in 2006 as a Teach First participant, teaching English at a large academy in North West London. Here, he held various leadership roles including leading a high-performing English department and driving the improvement of teaching and learning across the school as Assistant Principal. Under his leadership of student achievement and standards, the school was recognised as one of the top 50 most improved schools nationally for its GCSE results. Prior to joining One Degree Academy, Aidan served as Vice Principal of City of London Academy, one of the highest performing academies nationally.
 - **Riaz Shah, Chair** -- Riaz is a senior partner at EY, the global professional services firm, with over 30 years' experience in global management, talent, technology consulting, and accounting. Riaz studied at a comprehensive school in Luton's Marsh Farm estate, Bradford University Management Centre and Harvard University. He is a board member of several education and entrepreneurship charities. Riaz also teaches at Ashridge Executive Education, and is a frequent speaker at London Business School.
 - **Natasha Porter, Trustee** -- Natasha currently works as the CEO of Unlocked Graduates. Previously, Natasha joined Policy Exchange as Deputy Head of their Education Unit in August 2014. Before joining Policy Exchange she spent five years as a founding teacher and Senior Leader at King Solomon Academy. Natasha is a Teach First ambassador from the '06 cohort,



and completed three years teaching English in a comprehensive school before joining the ARK network to found an academy. She delivers teacher training for Teach First, Teach for Australia, ARK schools and Harris schools, and is passionate about addressing educational inequality through building sustainable networks of high performing schools.

○ **Jacob Kestner, Trustee** -- Jacob is an education entrepreneur currently opening two new “pathways” colleges in Ireland. Previously he worked for the education company, Pearson, leading their corporate venture capital fund in South East Asia. He started his career as history teacher in a London comprehensive.

○ **Hassan Damluji, Trustee** -- Hassan has designed and delivered successful education reforms in the UK and abroad, both as a manager in McKinsey & Company and through establishing and leading non-profit organizations, including the New Schools Network and Achievement for All.

Currently Head of Middle East Relations for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Hassan is also responsible for educational liaison between the Foundation and the UK government, enabling him to channel to our school much of the best practices observed by the Foundation in the US charter school system.

The One Degree Academy website can be found at: <http://onedegreeacademy.org/>

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