Madeley Academy

Contextual Statement for UCAS 2018 applications

School context

Madeley Academy is an average-sized community academy with an over-subscribed Sixth Form of around 200 students. The school is located in an area of Telford with high levels of social deprivation and, the proportion of students eligible for the pupil premium is almost double the national average. Nationally, it is in the highest quintile for Free School Meals, Social Deprivation and SEN students.

Against this backdrop, achievement in the Sixth Form is in the top 4% nationally for both academic and vocational courses with an average grade prediction for 2017 of B at A Level and D*- for the BTEC courses. All students who wish to, have gained a place at University over the past 3 years and up to 30% of these have been at 'prestigious' universities - this is well above the national average figure. 80% of students are first in their family to attend university which demonstrates the school's ethos of developing high aspirations. All students undertake extended work experience and 75% of students are involved in substantial volunteering. The Academy's retention rate of 94% and Success Rate of 94% are both well above national average.

Sixth Form Courses

In Year 12, all students complete a 4 AS Level equivalent programme and this can include a combination of academic or applied A-Levels and BTEC Level 3 courses where appropriate. All students sit the AS examination (or equivalent) at the end of the year in order to benchmark progress and in Year 13, 60% of students continue with their 4 subjects.

UCAS predictions

Students are formally assessed and written reports of progress are made 6 times a year. These reports are informed by regular tests in class, mock examinations in January and the AS examination result. UCAS grade predictions are finalised in September/October of Year 13, based on this solid body of evidence including the DfE prediction system. Students therefore have realistic and reliable predictions against which they can make informed decisions about university and course choices.