





## **XP Gateshead**



xpgateshead.org

#### **XPG - our context**



- XP Gateshead is a **deliberately sized mainstream** 11-16 secondary school, opened under the Free Schools process in August 2021
- The school has built each year, adding an additional year group
- We currently have **200 pupils in years 7, 8, 9 and 10** and will have a total of 250 students

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#### **XPG - our context**



- Each year group consists of 2 mixed ability classes of 25
- Within each year group there are 4 "crews" which consist of 12/13 students
- We continue to be in **temporary accommodation**
- We have a **small and growing team of staff** (22 members of staff, 14 teachers including our Principal and Deputy Principal and 8 support staff),

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## What some people think we are:

- A Special School
- A Private School
- A Behaviour School
- A Vocational School
- An Outdoor Adventure School
- A Project Based School
- A school that is in between a special school and a mainstream school

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## What some people think we are:

- A small school that has nurture groups
- A small school that has small class sizes
- A school that's not strict around behaviour
- A school doesn't write, doesn't read, doesn't do exams
- A school that doesn't do traditional assessments
- A school that doesn't follow the national curriculum

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### What we are:

A specifically designed small school which has a relentless focus on

• Beautiful Work

• Character Growth

Academic Success



## **Expeditionary Learning**

Students learn through **cross-curricular** learning expeditions.

Experts, fieldwork and authentic, beautifully crafted final products.

Students as **stewards** of their community, their work **impacts positively** on their community.



# So why do we deliver curriculum through Learning Expeditions?



We deliver our curriculum by connecting and contextualising subjects through learning expeditions:

- Deepens learning
- Makes knowledge more powerful
- Enhances engagement through purpose, authenticity and creativity

## **ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

- The work here is **challenging**.
- Expectations are high, but simple:
  - Work hard, Get Smart, Be Kind
- Equity through **quality first teaching** in **mixed ability classrooms**.
- We don't set students
- We don't have nurture groups
- Students lead their learning
  - Student Led Conferences
  - Passage Presentations



### **CHARACTER GROWTH at XP Gateshead**

Crew is our culture.

Character traits are our DNA

**Crew is a structure** to ensure everyone is known, supported and challenged

Crew curriculum 45 mins everyday

**Community meetings** 

**Restorative practice** it's very public here

Student Led Conference

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# **Character Traits**

#### Courage

To put ourselves outside our comfort zone to develop and deepen our learning and character.

To have conviction in our thoughts and feelings and communicate them effectively.

To endeavour to succeed, even though there is a chance of failure.

#### Respect

To respect ourselves and others.

To work with others despite differences or difficulties.

To show consideration towards other people and our environment.

#### Craftsmanship and Quality

To always strive to create beautiful work.

To take time and effort to draft, redraft and critique our work.

To aim for a quality in our work that is indistinguishable from professionals.

#### Compassion

To show understanding, care, love and pride for ourselves and other people.

To be committed to contributing positively to our community.

To help others to achieve.

#### Integrity

To be self-motivated to achieve our best.

To build resilience, responsibility and a never give up attitude.

To recognise the reasons for failure and, as a result, enhance our chances for success.

#### **CHARACTER GROWTH - Ullswater**

• Ullswater, fundamental part of forming **Crew**.







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'There is more to us than we know. If we can be made to see it, perhaps for the rest of our lives we will be unwilling to settle for less.'

1.10. 10.00

Kurt Hahn Educator and Founder of the Outward Bound organisation

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