

# EDUCATION



The University of Birmingham was, at its foundation in 1900, the first civic university in the country. Our founder Joseph Chamberlain saw the University as a great school of universal instruction and this remains at our core.

In addition we are driving forward research and innovation across all aspects of education.

We are pioneering research into multilingual communication, teaching people with autism, tackling race inequality in education and strengthening character education in schools as well as delivering outstanding teacher training programmes and increasing opportunities for school children across the city by opening the first University training school, focused on providing a high quality comprehensive secondary education.

## Key messages

- The Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues is a pioneering interdisciplinary research centre focusing on moral values in British society. Through its work aimed at strengthening character in the context of the country's schools, families and workplaces, the Centre is having a major impact on theory, high policy and practice.
- The School of Education is an Outstanding Provider of Teacher Training for Primary and Secondary Education, as accredited by OFSTED. It offers Primary and Secondary Initial Teacher Education through the Postgraduate Diploma in Education. It also offers both salaried and non-salaried School Direct places in partnership with local schools as routes into teacher training.
- The University of Birmingham's Centre for Research in Race and Education is the country's foremost academic centre dedicated to the study of racism and race inequality in education. Its work has been cited by the House of Commons Education Select Committee.

- The Autism Centre for Education and Research leads the way in research and teaching in education and care for individuals on the autism spectrum internationally.
- The MOSAIC Centre for Research on Multilingualism is a world-leading hub for research on multilingualism in education and society.



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM  
SCHOOL



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM'S SCHOOL  
OF EDUCATION RESEARCH  
WAS RANKED AMONG  
**THE BEST  
IN THE COUNTRY**  
FOR ITS QUALITY IN THE  
RESEARCH EXCELLENCE  
FRAMEWORK (REF) 2014.



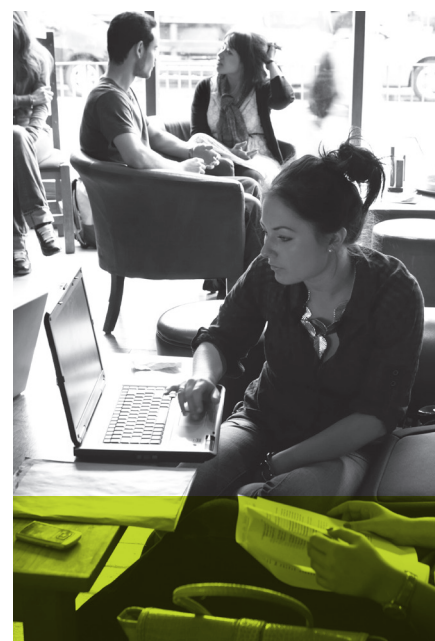
Opening in September 2015, the University of Birmingham School will transform lives by providing a learning community that will use the wonderful facilities of a new building and exploit its close association with the University to provide an unrivalled educational experience for all of its pupils. It will be the UK's first secondary University training school and will have a strong focus on character education.

## Background

# CHARACTER EDUCATION



Character education is an area of serious focus for politicians and policymakers – a recent poll found that 80 per cent of MPs across the three main parties agree that developing moral virtues is as important as gaining good exam results. This has prompted a drive among senior ministers to promote and develop character education.



## The evidence

- The University of Birmingham has been delivering business education in Singapore for more than 20 years via a 'flying faculty' agreement. In addition, the Birmingham – Jinan MBA was launched last year, being a part-time programme jointly run by Birmingham and the School of Management at Jinan University, Guangzhou, China.
- The University of Birmingham became the first European institution to partner the US publishing giant Wiley in 2014, offering three new online Masters programmes from September 2015.
- The School has a strong record of attracting funding and is third in the UK for research income.

The Rt Hon Nicky Morgan MP, Secretary of State for Education, has announced significant funds to develop new character education programmes, initiated a character award for schools and declared that Britain should become a global leader in character education. Ms Morgan stated that she has 'been inspired by the work of the Jubilee Centre' when she gave the 2014 Raymond Priestley Lecture.



**BOTH THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION AND THE SHADOW SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION HAVE REFERENCED THE JUBILEE CENTRE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS AND SHOWN SUPPORT FOR THE WORK IN MAJOR SPEECHES AND AT EVENTS SPONSORED BY THE JUBILEE CENTRE.**

Multilingualism is a crucial feature of a super-diverse society and has important political, economic and social implications.



## Key projects

- The Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues is undertaking research in the areas of character education in schools, with marginalised young people, the British Army, nurses, business and finance professionals, parents and the media. These projects will run until November 2017.
- Centre for Research in Race and Education academics are currently working on a range of projects including a study looking at the changing educational landscape in relation to ethnic diversity in the two decades since the murder of Stephen Lawrence.

**THE AUTISM CENTRE FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (ACER) CURRENTLY HAS A FLAGSHIP INTERNATIONAL PROJECT RESEARCHING GOOD AUTISM EDUCATIONAL PRACTICE IN THE UK, GREECE AND ITALY. ACER ALSO WORKS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SCHOOLS, PRACTITIONERS AND PARENTS TO RESEARCH TECHNOLOGY USE AND THE LEARNING ARISING FROM THIS, INCLUDING THE CROSS-DISCIPLINARY 'ROBOTS IN THE CLASSROOM' PROJECT.**



## MULTILINGUALISM

- The MOSAIC Centre for Research on Multilingualism is currently leading a four-year AHRC-funded beacon project, 'Translation and Translanguaging: Investigating Linguistic and Cultural Transformations in Superdiverse Wards in Four UK Cities'.