global academy

Kickstart Your Media Career

Global Academy Prospectus



A school and sixth form like no other.

Our Vision:

To kickstart your media career

Our Mission:

Global Academy prepares young talent from all backgrounds for long-lasting careers in the media and entertainment industry. Catering for Year 10 through to Year 13 and beyond, our courses equip students for success through a blend of technical skills development, hands-on vocational experience and academic knowledge.



Pupils have positive attitudes to learning because teachers have high expectations to behaviour.

Ofsted

Unlocking potential.

Global Academy was founded to tackle the skills shortage and lack of diversity in the UK's media sector.

I've always been aware of how difficult it can be to break into the media business – especially for younger people who have the drive yet often lack the practical and technical skills they need.

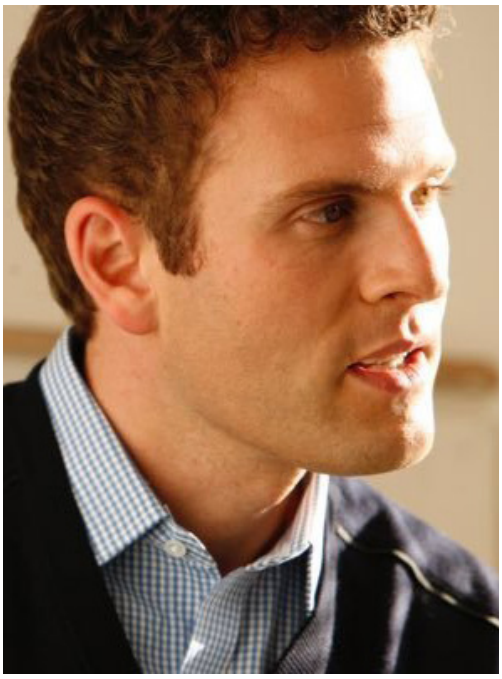
With this in mind, we've made sure Global Academy has a culture of entrepreneurialism, where ambition and success are encouraged, and where we empower those with the passion but not necessarily the means to enter the creative industries.

It's a place I genuinely wish I could have found on leaving school at 16 to pursue my passion for radio. And we're only just getting started. Up and down the country, there are talented young people who could have thriving careers – whose lives we could transform.

We hope you'll join us as we unlock that potential.



Ashley Tabor-King CBE
Founder and President - Global
Member – Global Academy




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Turning ambitions into careers

Global Academy is a unique school and sixth form whose winning formula combines rigorous academic study with specialist training for the fast-paced, ever-expanding media and entertainment industries.

Through this prospectus, we hope you'll get a sense of our broad and ambitious curriculum, which bridges the gap between education and industry and sets students on the path to success. We also hope you'll see why many of our industry partners often tell us they wish a school like this had existed when they were young.



What makes Global Academy so unique?

We think big, keep it simple, own it, and know we're better together! These values have made Global Academy a leader in creativity and innovation, and are lived out daily by our outstanding staff – many of whom bring invaluable industry experience into our classrooms.

Our facilities set the standard for excellence in education and industry training. Whether it's broadcasting from our radio studios, creating digital content for social media, filming in our TV studios, producing music in our recording studios, experimenting in cutting-edge labs, or simply studying in our classrooms, we give students the very best ways to work together.

Then there's our partnership with Global, our academy sponsor and one of the world's leading media and entertainment groups. Global's resources and opportunities enable our students to skill up in real-life projects, gain insights through industry placements and receive mentorship support as they develop.

Elsewhere, our partnership with the University of Arts London enriches our curriculum with Higher Education visits and experiences. We also maintain strong links with leading creative and media companies, which provide our students with opportunities for further growth.

Most importantly, we are ambitious: we want each and every student to leave us academically successful and ready to make their mark. This is why we're so proud that all of our students go on to further education, employment, apprenticeships, or training, and that many alumni have gone on to secure roles with top media companies including Global, Sky, TikTok, Google, and the BBC.

So, are you ready to dream big, aim high, push those boundaries and kickstart your career in media? Join us at Global Academy and let us help to turn those ambitions into a career.



James Murray-Walsh
Principal



Kirsty Leith
Chair of Governors

Our Founding Partners

Global Academy works with a huge number of media brands, companies and partners to give students real-life experience of the broadcast and digital media industry.

Global

A world-leading media and entertainment group, Global is home to media brands including Capital, Heart, Classic FM, LBC, Global's Newsroom, Smooth, Radio X, Capital XTRA, Gold Radio and Global Player. It's also the UK's leading outdoor company and one of the largest in Europe, with over 235,000 sites reaching 95% of the UK population.

On-air, on Global Player and with outdoor platforms combined, Global reaches 51 million individuals across the UK every week, including 26.3 million through the radio alone.

Global Academy students enjoy the benefits of Global's work experience programme, advice from industry professionals, bespoke training opportunities and one-to-one mentoring, not to mention exclusive access to major events including Capital's Jingle Bell Ball and Classic FM Live.

Global staff help to shape our unique industry-focused media curriculum, providing staff training, governance and marketing support through their radio, outdoor and digital platforms.

The Academy also works closely with Global employee network groups that promote and celebrate diversity and inclusion, building community and providing safe spaces for open and honest conversation. These networks include RISE (representing Globallers from various ethnic, racial and cultural backgrounds), women@global (championing gender equality at all levels, across all areas), accessibility@global (supporting those with physical and neurological differences) and pride@global (promoting inclusion no matter your sexuality or gender identity).

90+ alumni have been employed by Global since 2018



UAL: London College of Communication

University of the Arts London (UAL) is a world-leading university for art and design (ranked second in the world for art and design in the 2021 QS World University Rankings®), and is the founding educational partner of Global Academy.

UAL's London College of Communication works alongside the Global Academy team to deliver an amazing educational experience geared towards long-term success in the creative industries. All our students study for a leading qualification from the UAL Awarding Body.

Baker Dearing Educational Trust

Global Academy is a UTC (University Technical College) and is supported by the Baker Dearing Educational Trust.

Baker Dearing Educational Trust was founded by Lord Baker and Lord Dearing to develop and promote the concept of university technical colleges, and operates today as a small, flexible organisation at the centre of the UTC network. The Trust focuses on promoting and supporting new and existing UTCs like Global Academy, where technical, practical, and academic learning are integrated to create an environment where students not only thrive but develop the abilities that tomorrow's industries will need.

Our Values

At Global Academy, we want to give everyone the chance to learn new skills in broadcast and digital media. Ours is a non-selective school, which means we cater for students of all abilities. We're also state funded, so you'll have no fees to pay if you learn with us.

Our Values are:

Think Big
Keep it Simple
Own it
Better together

Think Big:

Our students relentlessly pursue academic excellence in English, maths, and science during Years 10 and 11. From Year 10 through to Year 13 and beyond, we foster ambition, hard work and high aspirations through specialised vocational training courses in media and entertainment.

Keep it Simple:

Our winning formula is also a simple one: powerful academic and vocational knowledge and cutting-edge technical skills lead to outstanding outcomes. Almost 2 million people in the UK work in the creative industries, with employment in the sector growing at four times the rate of the UK workforce. Our approach ensures that every single one of our students can go on to great things when they leave us.

Own It:

Integrity and responsibility are crucial. We push students to own their actions and decisions. By setting high expectations for how students conduct themselves, we prepare them to become well-rounded, responsible citizens who are ready to become tomorrow's leaders in industry.

Better Together:

By partnering and working together with leading industry professionals, we offer students a standout vocational education. Our unique curriculum, crafted with industry input, features real-world briefs, regular and relevant visits, and feedback from professionals in the field.




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Destinations beyond the Academy

Every year, a new wave of students will leave Global Academy and land top spots at leading media companies like Global, BBC, Facebook, and Google, as well as prestigious creative higher education institutions.

Many students will also move on from our sixth form to continue their learning within Global Academy's specialist industry training programme. Here, students receive a Level 4 Professional Diploma accredited by the University of Arts London Awarding Body.

In both routes, Global Academy is transformational. We equip students with the skills, qualifications, and aptitudes they need to be frontrunners in a dauntingly competitive jobs market.

- Versus outcomes from other secondary schools, Global Academy students from disadvantaged backgrounds are more likely go on to university
- Much of the content you hear on radio, see on social media, or watch on TV is likely to have been made by a Global Academy graduate

Where do our students go?

News UK

global

Wavemaker

BBC

Canon

Google

dentsu

NBC UNIVERSAL

TikTok

sky

WARNERMEDIA

Premier League Productions

Omnicom MediaGroup

University of Leeds

Nottingham Trent University

MG

ual: london college of communication

Royal Holloway University of London

De Montfort University Leicester

The Fellas Studios

Escape Studios

University for the Creative Arts

Cardiff University / Prifysgol Caerdydd

Disney

University of Kent

University of West London – The Career University

University of Westminster

Pinewood

LIPA – The Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts

metfilm School

University of East Anglia

> **Excellent careers advice and guidance from the creative media industry contribute to almost all Year 11 and Year 13 students, including disadvantaged pupils, securing employment, education or training that meet their needs and interests**
>
> Ofsted

Study in world-class facilities

Preparing for a long-lasting media career requires access to the best tools in the business. Thanks to substantial investment from our sponsors and partners, Global Academy's innovative, high-tech campus is a learning environment like no other.

Based at The Old Vinyl Factory on the site of EMI's old vinyl record business, our campus boasts industry-standard recording and filming studio spaces, theatres, and a four-storey atrium. From top to the bottom, it was designed from scratch for young people seeking a quality media-focused education.



What's on offer?

Radio Studios

Eight fully equipped radio studios with the latest play-out and broadcast software allow students to produce radio shows and podcasts during media lessons, and also host the academy's award-winning Youths Choice radio station. These studios are often used for broadcasting by Capital, Heart, and LBC, and offer voiceover facilities for commercial clients.



TV Studios

Our larger green screen studio and smaller visual podcast studio help our students create social media content, adverts, music videos, and showreels. Students regularly collaborate with industry professionals on content for companies like Premier League Productions and Global's youth brand Capital Buzz.



Music Production Studios

Our state-of-the-art recording facility and music tech classroom packs in 25 individual Apple Mac workstations with Pro Tools. Our Music Technology department uses these spaces to develop digital productions as well as band recordings, solo track recordings and DJ sessions.



Sports Hall

Physical wellbeing is important for our students, which is why G:Fit lessons take place in our large sports hall. A range of lunchtime and after-school clubs and school teams use the facility, which is also shared with the local community during evenings and weekends.



Edit Suites

Students can book our suites for media projects and developing post-production skills. Each suite contains the latest in Apple technology and is fully soundproofed to create an industry-like working environment. Students have full access to Adobe's Creative Cloud suite, including Premiere Pro and After Effects.



Digital Content Hub & Arts Studios

Our Digital Content Hub is equipped with Adobe Creative Cloud to help students master tools like Photoshop, Illustrator and After Effects. Students can also realise their digital ideas with state-of-the-art large-format and 3D printers. DSLR cameras and lighting softboxes are available for stop-motion projects, while two specialist art and design studios also support 2D creative work.



Computer Rooms

All media classrooms in the school use high powered desktop computers to support learning media production techniques. This ensures students can do everything from making a podcast in Adobe Audition to developing a trailer for their YouTube channel.



Esports Studios

Our world-class esports and gaming studios enable students to compete in tournaments and broadcast globally using cutting-edge streaming equipment. The main studio, featuring top-tier gaming computers, fixed cameras, and LED lighting controls, alongside a supporting content hub, offers everything for live-streamed sports content.



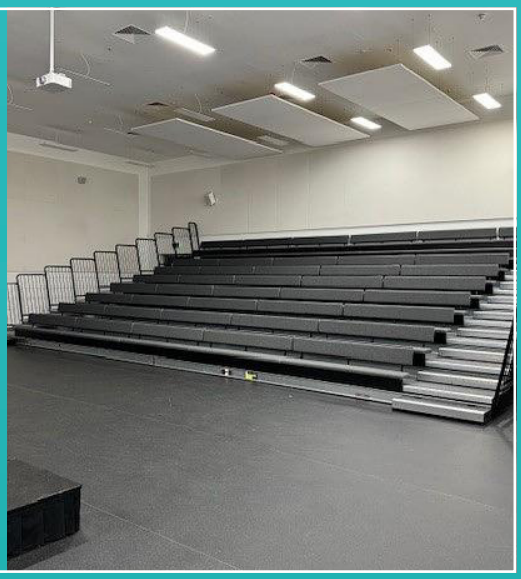
Knowledge Hub

Our brand new Knowledge Hub is the home of Global Academy's collection of fiction and non-fiction books that will inspire and empower our students. For our students, who often come from underrepresented backgrounds, these books are not just educational tools—they are keys to unlocking their potential and opening doors to a brighter future.



Main Hall & Lecture Theatre

Our main hall and lecture theatre host a variety of industry talks and learning experiences. Our theatre is also used annually for end-of-term charity performances, GCSE drama showcases, and multi-school industry workshops. Many commercial clients, including YMCA, Dame Kelly Holmes Trust, Studio Lambert Productions/Channel 4, Hillingdon Council, LBC and GoDaddy have also used this space. The venue is fully equipped with lighting, sound and staging, and offers live-streaming capabilities for assemblies, events and productions.



Visual Podcast Studio

Students can create industry standard visual podcasts in our state of the art podcast studio. Equpped with full studio setup designed to create audio and visual podcasts on demand - with the ability to upload to social media in real time.



Science Lab

Our state-of-the-art science labs give students dedicated space to complete practical experiments as part of GCSE science courses or extracurricular activities in G:Sci, our popular science club. To display their knowledge of science, students often produce digital content in our labs.



Preparing you for the Future

Excellent careers advice and guidance from a range of personnel, including from the creative media industry, colleges, and universities, contribute to an impressive number of pupils making the transition to further education, employment, or training. All Year 11 pupils and Year 13 students, including disadvantaged pupils, secured employment, education or training that met their needs and interests

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At Global Academy, we don't just teach the skills you need for the creative media industry – we give you access to insider knowledge and industry connections to help you succeed.

Whether it's hosting industry guests, partnering with creative sector companies, or incorporating career-related activities into the curriculum, we've made careers education, information, advice, and guidance (CEIAG) part of life at Global Academy.

Our careers programme gives students from all backgrounds the inspiration, skills and tools to take control of their career paths, whatever their passion.

During a two- or four- year journey at Global Academy, students enjoy:

- Personalised 1-on-1 guidance from a dedicated careers advisor, with an action plan for each student
- Tailored career support for SEN (Special Educational Needs) students
- Access to an industry mentor from Global and other partners
- A weekly careers and opportunities bulletin for sixth form students
- Regular support from a Careers Coach
- Career preparation and readiness built into the school day
- CV and interview training from top creative employers
- Curriculum time focused on career preparation
- Workshops and talks from Global Academy alumni and leading employers
- Industry and Career Drop Down Days
- Regular work experience with top UK media employers
- Visits to universities and media workplaces
- Access to digital career preparation tools like Unifrog and ERIC
- Guidance and support for parents to help with career transitions

Students benefit from strong preparation for their future careers. For example, they receive individual mentoring from specialists from the creative media industry, as well as bespoke support and guidance from a range of colleges, universities, and apprenticeship providers"

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Why study at Global Academy

Global Academy develops agile thinking, problem solving, teamwork and leadership skills – all vital for a successful media industry career. Through project-based learning and working on 'real world' challenges, our students not only develop these skills, but learn to appreciate the relevance of their academic coursework.

10 Reasons to study at Global Academy

1. Unlock your future with top employer connections.
2. Gain industry-specific qualifications in media and entertainment with strong academic grounding.
3. Future-proof your career with hands-on learning and cutting-edge skills.
4. Get expert guidance to make informed career choices with our industry links.
5. Access state-of-the-art facilities and a curriculum designed with industry input.
6. Address national skills shortages in digital and creative fields with us.
7. Dive deep into creative studies that mainstream schools can't offer.
8. Build a strong academic and creative foundation to excel in your career.
9. Join a globally recognised centre of excellence in media.
10. Graduate with the confidence and skills to advance to further education or jump straight into a creative job.

Ready to stand out? Apply to Global Academy and kick-start your career in media!

Is Global Academy right for you?

Every Global Academy student has the opportunity to build up the confidence and skills they need to get ahead in further education or launch a career in the creative industries. With the sector growing all the time, we do all we can to make sure every student goes on to a great destination.

Global Academy is for you if:

- **You're mature** and ready for an adult-style experience with high standards and professional practices.
- **You're committed** to excelling in GCSEs or our unique sixth form pathways with hard work and dedication.
- **You want practical training** in technical, business, and creative skills, blending core studies with hands-on learning.
- **You're passionate** about our creative industry curriculum.
- **You seek direct industry connections** for real-world experience and networking.
- **You want expert guidance** from skilled educators and industry professionals.
- **You want to learn in cutting-edge facilities** designed for creative excellence.
- **You're ready to kickstart your career** with options for employment, apprenticeships, freelancing, or university.

Apply to Global Academy and start shaping your future today!

How we'll look after you

The media and creative industries can be high-pressure environments, with long hours and demanding schedules too often the norm. At Global Academy, we see it as our responsibility to teach our students how to take care of their own mental health and thrive in their careers.

While academic, creative, and technical knowledge are of course important, we also provide high standards of care, guidance, and emotional support. Across our campus and beyond, we constantly prioritise the wellbeing and safeguarding of our students.

Our large support team includes four assistant principals, two heads of pastoral care, a SENDCO, a school counselling team, learning support assistants, attendance officer, pastoral administrator and help from external agencies. Plus, our staff are always on hand to answer any questions or concerns.

A school united

Global Academy is a diverse and inclusive school whose staff and students are united by creativity, a love of content, and a desire to set up successful careers in the creative industries. We're proud to say that 55% of our students come from world majority communities, and that 60% are female. Many of our students also register themselves as non-binary, and we're home to a large LGBTQIA+ community.

Leaders have successfully embedded core values through a carefully considered programme of personal development. Emotional support for vulnerable pupils and pupils facing difficulties is strong. The school works well with external agencies to ensure that pupils receive the support they need.

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Extending your experience with G:Ventures

Our G:Ventures programmes ensures all students, no matter their background, can further their personal and professional development by enhancing skills like teamwork, communication, adaptability, leadership, and problem-solving.

Our personal and employability skills development curriculum includes:

- EDI (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) Committee
- Global Inspire Mentoring (for Sixth Form)
- Global Mini Mentoring (for Key Stage 4)
- G:Fit – Sports and Wellbeing
- Student Network Leadership
- Student Voice
- University of Arts London Visits and Workshops
- Youths Choice and The Loop

G:Ventures, classes and opportunities include:

- The Baker Award
- Creative Writing Club
- Choir
- Cinematography
- DJ workshops
- Disneyland Paris creative industry visit
- Drama performances and school productions
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Film Club
- Esports Club
- G:Sci
- Girls' boxing
- Los Angeles creative industry visit
- Shine Media Awards
- Street dance
- Photography Club
- Presenting and voice coaching
- Rock climbing
- Student Radio Awards
- Trips and visits

FREE Adobe Software

All students in Global Academy Sixth Form get to use Adobe Creative Cloud on campus and at home. This premium package, valued at £600 a year, includes Premiere Pro, Photoshop, Audition and Illustrator as well as Canva Premium.

Join us in Year 10

Join Global Academy at 14 to kickstart your future career.

This is your opportunity to earn industry-standard media qualifications alongside your GCSEs. Our curriculum blends creative learning with technical and entrepreneurial skills to make sure you stand out to future employers.

You'll work on projects set by both the Academy and real-life employers, creating digital, audio, and visual content while gaining valuable industry insights.

What you'll study

Core Subjects:

- Level 2 UAL Diploma in Creative Media Production and Technology (equivalent to 4 GCSEs)
- GCSE English Language and Literature
- GCSE Mathematics
- GCSE Science (Double or Triple Award)
- PE, PSHE and RS

On top of these, all students pick TWO complementary creative GCSE options.

Creative GCSE Options (subject to availability):

- Art & Design
- Drama
- Media Business
- Music Production
- Musical Theatre

Limited Places Available:
We generally receive over 400 applications for just 100 places. Apply now to secure your place!

Visit **globalacademy.com** to read curriculum details, course descriptions and apply today.




global academy
BLOOD BROTHERS

Join us in Year 12

Join our sixth form to receive industry-standard media qualifications and opportunities as you study for a Level 3 qualification.

Our sixth form offers a range of industry-focused pathways to kickstart your career, each designed in partnership with the world's biggest media employers. This way, you'll be connected to the industry from your first day and stand out in a future job market. In fact, our strong links with employers and universities mean employers might already know who you are when you apply.

Don't forget, our qualifications hold the same value as THREE A Levels.

Where can Global Academy Sixth Form take me?

Job or apprenticeship

Develop the skills, knowledge, and behaviours you'll need to land a job or apprenticeship with a top media, entertainment, or creative employer.

Higher education

Earn UCAS points to secure your future and develop your passions at one of the UK's top creative universities or higher education institutions.

Further training

Continue your career development at Global Academy's very own Year 14 programme, designed by industry experts.

Freelance

Go it alone! You'll leave us with the entrepreneurial skills, creative experience and contacts you need to set up as a creative freelancer.

Choose your pathway – which route is right for me?

Industry-based pathways

The following courses will see you spend 80% of your time at Global Academy and 20% at an industry placement in your first and second year.

Technical Content and Production T Level Pathway

Love making videos, podcasts, YouTube content or TikToks? This is the route for you.



IT T Level Pathway

If you want a career as a digital programmer, software engineer or technician in the media industry, this is the way to go.



College Based Pathways

The following courses are based entirely at Global Academy, with lots of work experience opportunities in industry.

Sports Media Pathway

Fancy becoming a sports broadcaster, commentator, journalist or on-the-pitch producer? Our Sports Media Pathway is the route to take.



Art and Design Pathway

If you love the idea of designing graphics, creating animations, or producing advertising and branding campaigns, this one's for you.



Media and Business Pathway

Take this path if you can imagine yourself as the next big creative leader, want to get your teeth stuck into a business plan, or would love to make innovative ideas a reality.



Journalism Pathway

The ideal first step towards a great career in journalism, news reporting and digital content creation.



Esports Production Pathway

Put yourself at the forefront of one of the fastest growing media industries by learning all the skills you need to become an esports producer.



Limited Places Available:
We generally receive over 850 applications for just 150 places. Act now to secure your place!

Visit **globalacademy.com** to read curriculum details, course descriptions and apply today.



Join us in Year 14

Our unique and free industry-focused programme for 18+ students will kickstart your career in the creative media industry.

We know university isn't for everyone. So if you're keen to launch your freelance media venture or simply nurture your creative side as you work out your future, our course could be a game-changer.

Developed in partnership with industry leaders, this FREE one-year course offers real-world experiences and tailored training to expand your network, craft your portfolio, build up your entrepreneurial skills and help you master essential business strategies.

Why not skip the traditional university path to gain industry led, tuition-free training?

Meet the Course Lead



Jay Harris is the Course Lead for our Year 14 London programme.

With nearly twenty years of experience as a founder, MD, and lead creative strategist, Jay Harris has coached talent across multiple major UK media brands, including BBC, Global, ITV, YouTube, and Twitch. Jay's achievements include executive producer credits for award-winning podcast series, six leading radio shows, and mentoring over thirty-five presenters.



Costs

This course is FREE for anyone under 19 years old when the course begins on September 1st.

Students are are also eligible for additional travel bursary/financial support depending on their circumstances (e.g. you received free school meals or a sixth form bursary).

Costs may apply to students aged 19+. Students can apply for an Advanced Learner Loan from the Government.

Visit **globalacademy.com** to read curriculum details, course descriptions and apply today.



What our students' parents say

We're excited about the future and confident in the foundations we've laid to help us grow Global Academy over the coming years. The positive response to our January 2024 Ofsted Parents' Survey reflects this progress.

I cannot emphasise enough how Global has turned my child's life around. From being a boy in Year 9 who faced exclusion from a mainstream school, constantly tempted/pursued by the gang culture that still surrounds him, he has managed to find a path thanks to the dedication and commitment of the amazing team at Global Academy.



Parents commend the academy's commitment to providing a supportive and inclusive environment for students from diverse backgrounds. They appreciate the academy's high standard of teaching, which fosters academic excellence and personal growth. Additionally, parents praise the school's communication, especially the effective collaboration between staff and families. The report also underscores Global Academy's dedication to student welfare, emphasising a strong focus on safeguarding and pastoral care.

Global has been an amazing experience for my daughter. She's meeting many different people in the industry and is constantly being pushed to go beyond her comfort zone. We have been pleased with the school.





Kickstart Your Media Career

> **The vocational curriculum at key stage 4 and in the sixth form is the most distinctive element of the school's provision. All pupils have the opportunity to engage with employers in the creative media industry, as well as having access to a rich and varied range of work-related learning opportunities.**
>
> Ofsted

@thegacademy

globalacademy.com