



KIRKBY
HIGH SCHOOL



EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

Welcome

Thank you for taking the time to read our prospectus.

Kirkby High School is a lovely school which is oversubscribed for the 2022 Year 7 intake. It is an 11-16 mixed comprehensive of around 950 students where we continually strive to provide the highest standards for our whole school community.

At Kirkby High School, we are very proud of our students and we understand the huge influence we have on our young people as we prepare them for adulthood. We believe that we offer our young people guidance and aspiration to be the best they can be in all aspects of life. Quality teaching and learning, supported by reliable pastoral systems, ensure that students are preparing well for later life.

We believe in building a culture of resilience and tolerance in which our students can thrive. Our aim is to increase our students' self-belief and to show them that they can be what they want to be.

Good relationships between school and parents/carers are key in developing young people successfully. Because this is crucial, parents/carers are invited to phone school anytime or to arrange to come into school for a visit and a tour.

As a parent myself, I understand how important it is that you feel you can trust us to have your child's best interests at heart. With this in mind, staff at Kirkby High School work very hard and focus on forming positive relationships, based on mutual respect. We aim to get to know each child as an individual.

I want our school to be a natural first choice for all children living in our local areas and I hope you find all the information you need to make that choice in this prospectus. If you wish to know more, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Rochelle Conefrey
Headteacher



"YOU HAVE CONTINUED TO DRIVE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT THROUGH PASSIONATE AND SKILFUL LEADERSHIP". **Ofsted 2018**





Our Vision

A community that believes in top class teaching and a pastoral care system that is second to none ensures that we prepare our young people for a bright and optimistic future, filled with opportunity.

Our Values

We believe Kirkby as a community deserves a High School of the very highest quality, where Kirkby parents can trust their children will:

- > Be cared for in, and part of a calm culture built on mutual respect
- > Be encouraged to have the very highest aspirations and given the support to achieve those goals
- > Be taught excellent lessons by dedicated staff
- > Develop their creative curiosity and independent thinking skills
- > Enjoy a wide range of inspirational experiences, within lessons and during extra curricular activities
- > Grow into mature, responsible, thoughtful and successful members of society

What we offer

We aim to provide the best possible experience for our students throughout their time at Kirkby High School to ensure at the end of year 11 they can achieve their full potential.

To meet that goal, we deliver:

- > High quality teaching within a caring, respectful and safe environment.
- > Excellent progress monitoring and guidance plus regular communication with parents or carers.
- > A broad curriculum which is based mainly on GCSE subjects, with supporting vocational qualifications for those students who benefit from a more 'hands on' progression route. This enables students to explore themselves and their subjects to increase understanding and help each individual succeed.
- > State of the art ICT, so that students can always access the facilities they need to learn financial and new media skills.
- > Outstanding facilities for sport and academic study within bright, modern buildings.
- > 6 science labs in total, designed to allow creative investigations to be conducted independently whilst still allowing effective guidance.



"OUTCOMES FOR PUPILS ARE IMPROVING, INCLUDING IN ENGLISH AND MATHEMATICS".

Ofsted 2018



- > New state of the art design and technology facilities including dedicated textiles areas.
- > Inspiration through sport with students being encouraged to become young leaders. We also focus on making sport inclusive and educational, with events including girls in sport week, healthwise and national school sports week.
- > The option of weekly, fully funded, musical instrument or singing tuition for any year 7 student.
- > Residential weekends to improve English and maths skills, which include sporting and team building events.
- > A wide range of after-school clubs including gymnastics, netball, football, dance and cross country.
- > Comprehensive careers programme for all students to prepare them for their future, with a view to ensuring that they are able to manage their careers and sustain employability throughout their lives.

Moving from primary school

Leaving primary school to attend secondary school can be stressful for students.

That is why Kirkby High School works hard to make sure the transition is smooth.

When your child arrives at Kirkby High School they will not be a stranger to the school or its students as we:

- > Run weekly transition lessons to support years 3-6 in our partner primary schools in various subjects.
- > Invite students from partner primary schools to take part in activities at Kirkby High School.
- > Host year 6 students who will be attending Kirkby High School in September for a full day in their form group during the summer term.
- > Have a team of prefects with a responsibility for transition, whose primary goal is to intervene should any year 7 student show signs of difficulty settling in.



School expectations

Students feel secure at Kirkby High School, in part because our expectations for their conduct are clear, based on mutual respect and applied fairly.

We expect students will:

- > Be rewarded for consistently following the 'Kirkby Code'.
- > Be clear on the set of expectations.
- > Follow a set of sanctions according to any transgression of these expectations.

"PUPILS SAID THAT RULES ARE APPLIED MORE STRICTLY, BUT THIS MAKES THE SCHOOL A BETTER PLACE TO BE IN".

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The Kirkby Code

The 'Kirkby Code' has been developed by our students and forms the foundation of our behaviour policy.

It is based on simple values that give a clear set of expectations that our students feel are important in both the classroom and generally around our school community. These cover:

- > In the classroom
- > Moving around the school
- > Lunch and break times
- > Travelling to and from school

At the heart of our 'Kirkby Code' is the value of mutual respect, allowing Kirkby High School to be a calm and effective learning environment.

Respect

Everything we do at Kirkby High School is based on the fundamental principle of respect. Respect for others, respect for yourself and respect for your community.

From day one the expectation of 'respect for all' is at the forefront of all we do. At Kirkby High School we want to help all our students succeed and in order to achieve that, our behaviour policy applies to the following areas:

- > The journey to and from school
- > In the classroom
- > Between lessons
- > During break times
- > In the dining room

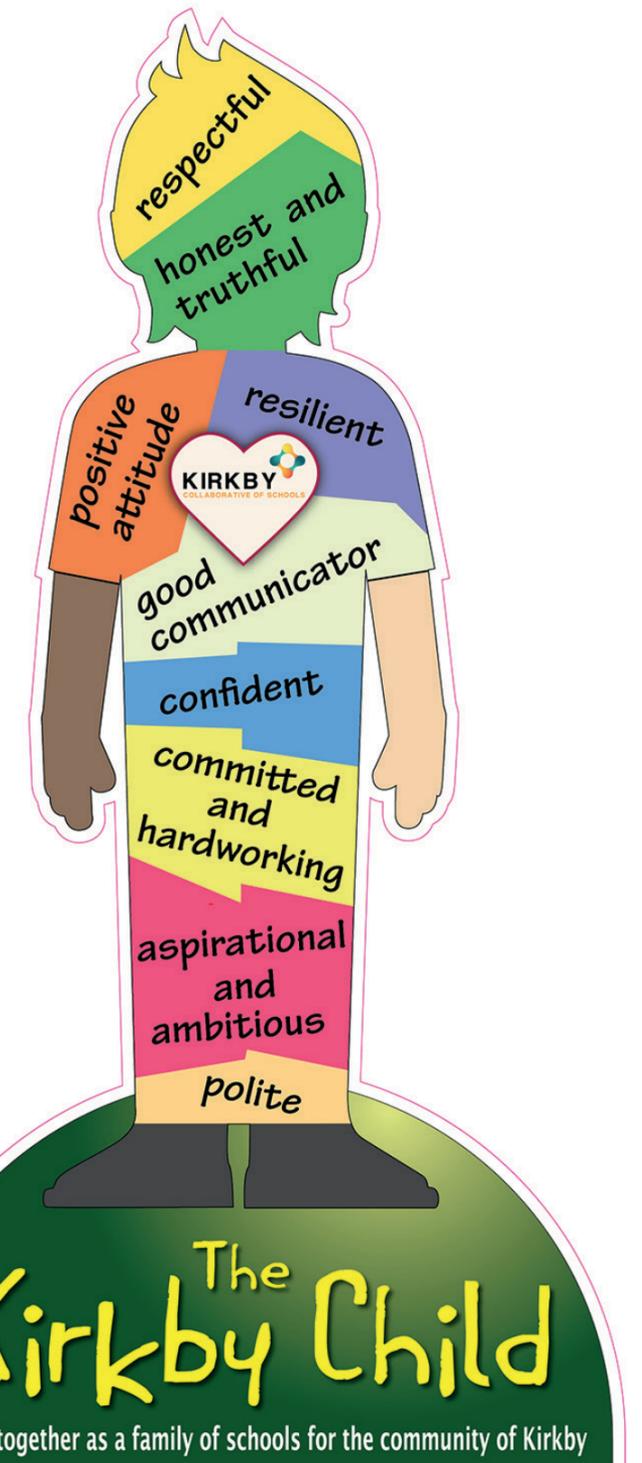
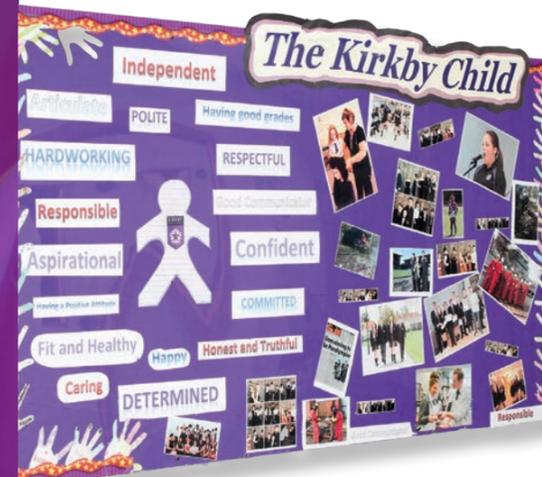
By stressing the need to maintain good behaviour at all times we create a strong and secure learning environment for the entire school community.

Kirkby Child

The 'Kirkby Child' works alongside our 'Kirkby Code' and underpins the whole ethos of Kirkby High School.

It is about developing the core values and skills which our community deems important for students when they leave our school and enter the big wide world.

The 'Kirkby Child' values and skills were developed through staff and student forums, with every member of our community contributing to the characteristics. It is embedded into all areas of the curriculum, as well as everyday life at Kirkby High School, and has now been adopted across the borough, as a set of core principles for Kirkby students.



"PUPILS RESPECT THE HIGH EXPECTATIONS STAFF HAVE OF THEM AND OF THE SCHOOL'S ROUTINES". **Ofsted 2018**

Curriculum

We aim for all students to be the best they can be.

This means a curriculum which stretches each child without inhibiting by:

- > Providing opportunities for diverse study.
- > Ensuring outcomes are matched to the best chances for further study or employment.
- > Nurturing creativity and talent.

Options

Currently students study three optional subjects as well as English, maths and science.

Options choices at Kirkby High School take place at the end of year 9. They are designed to allow a broad and balanced educational diet which will allow students to follow their preferred career path.

At Kirkby High School, we believe it is important to include parents/carers, students and the school in the options process for students in year 9.

As such we:

- > Provide an options evening for parents/carers and students to attend and meet each subject area. They are provided with an overview of the options process and course content for each subject.
- > Individual interviews take place between the student, parents/carers and a member of the senior leadership team. The interview process allows for parents/carers to receive a guided choice using data showing students' best chances of gaining qualifications which will allow them to progress to further education.



SEND

Kirkby High School is committed to a wholly inclusive educational experience in which all students feel valued and have access to a broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum.

In line with our whole school philosophy of 'Excellence for All', students with additional needs are carefully and comprehensively assessed in their primary school and on entry to year 7.

All students with additional needs in year 6 who have a place at the school are visited at their primary school personally by our Inclusion team, with their needs assessed and an action plan produced.

Students with additional needs will benefit from specialist teaching across the curriculum, with each curriculum area carefully tailoring staffing and resources to each child. These arrangements are continually assessed and refined, ensuring we continually review the most appropriate curriculum diet for those children.

Aside from the specialist teaching groups, children are given access to the latest in core skill intervention strategies to ensure readiness for key stage 4, including literacy booster activities, numeracy small group work and confidence and resilience training.



“TEACHERS PROVIDE PUPILS WITH CHALLENGING AND INTERESTING LEARNING ACTIVITIES” .Ofsted 2018



Wider opportunities

Inside and outside of the classroom we provide a wealth of opportunities to nurture the academic and personal growth of our students.

- > Representing the school on sports teams in football, netball, athletics and other sports.
- > Learning to play a musical instrument.
- > Becoming a Young Leader in sport.
- > Opportunity to learn about business through our network of local partners.
- > Charity work with groups including Action Aid, Sport Relief and Comic Relief.
- > The opportunity to take part in Performing Arts events.



“CLEAR VIEW ON HOW TO DRIVE UP THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION AT KIRKBY HIGH SCHOOL EVEN FURTHER”.

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Student leadership

At Kirkby High School we believe it is important to involve our students in decisions which affect them at school. We have put in place a structure that supports this belief.

We do this in a number of ways:

- > Head Boy and Head Girl
- > Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl
- > Senior Prefects
- > Prefects
- > Form Representatives
- > School Parliament with representatives from each form class

Admissions



A full statement of our admissions criteria can be found at www.knowsley.gov.uk.

Our oversubscription criteria are:

1. Children who are cared for by the Local Authority or who were, in certain circumstances, previously looked after by the Local Authority.
2. Children for whom the Council accepts there are exceptionally strong medical or welfare reasons for admission.
3. Children with a brother or sister already attending the preferred school and who will still be attending at the time of transfer.
4. Children attending named area partnership primary schools.
5. Remaining places are then allocated by measuring the distance from the child's home to school measured in a straight line. Those nearest the school have priority.

"THE QUALITY OF TEACHING ACROSS THE SCHOOL CONTINUES TO IMPROVE".

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The Rowan Learning Trust

The Rowan Learning Trust was established in May 2012 with the aim of maximising the potential of all children, students and adults that the Trust works with.



The Trust was established by the Governing Body and Leadership Team of Hawkley Hall High School following successful school to school support over a number of years and across a large number of schools in the North West. That school to school support was based on the belief that teachers should help each other to develop professionally so that the life chances of the children and students in their care could also improve.

The school to school support brought tangible benefits to all involved.

Underlining the Trust's commitment to maximising potential for all are these simple but powerful values:

1. Caring about, and for, children, young people and adults
2. Providing safe and nurturing settings
3. Creating opportunities for continual growth and development
4. Developing exceptional professionals
5. Delivering a culture of mutual respect
6. Fostering a learning community

For Kirkby High School this means that a wealth of expertise, built up over many years of successful school improvement in a number of contexts, is available to further support our community as and when we identify specific needs. To date that expertise has been used to support the teaching of English, maths and science, whole school teaching and learning and ICT infrastructure. Over the coming years, all schools in the Trust will benefit from the sharing of best practice and a common commitment to the young people and adults it influences.

"YOU AND OTHER LEADERS RECEIVE VERY GOOD SUPPORT FROM THE TRUST, AND ARE MAKING GREATER USE OF THE OPPORTUNITIES TO DISCUSS AND LEARN FROM OTHER SCHOOLS WITHIN THE TRUST."

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EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

We strive for the highest standards in everything we do. We are proud of our positive, caring ethos which has a fundamental principle at its heart - the principle of mutual respect.



OUR VISION

A community that believes in top class teaching and a pastoral care system that is second to none ensures that we prepare our young people for a bright and optimistic future, filled with opportunity.



Kirkby High School

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Kirkby High School is a member of the Rowan Learning Trust

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