



MAXIMISING OUR POTENTIAL

Welcome

Thank you for taking the time to read our prospectus.

Kirkby High School is a lovely school which is oversubscribed for the 2023 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. All staff at Kirkby High School fully embrace our mission: **Maximising Our Potential**. Leading this wonderful school fills me with great pride.

Kirkby High School stands at the centre of our local community and we believe that we offer our young people guidance and aspiration to be the best they can be in all aspects of life. We are determined to ensure every child reaches their potential. **Our vision is a community driven by high expectations and mutual respect providing all individuals with the belief and opportunities to succeed now and in the future.**

We believe in building a culture of **resilience, kindness, respect, aspiration** and **confidence** in which our students can thrive. These are our **Kirkby Child Values**. These values are a set of core principles for our students and underpin the whole ethos of our school.

Strong partnership between school and home is 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. I want our school to be a natural first-choice for all children living in the local area. 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. At Kirkby High School, we work hard to form positive relationships, based on mutual respect. We understand this is vital to provide all students with the opportunities to develop into well-rounded individuals, successfully both academically and personally.

I hope you find all the information you need in this prospectus. If you wish to know more, please don't hesitate to get in touch

Anna Dobson
Headteacher



"PUPILS ENJOY ATTENDING KIRKBY HIGH SCHOOL, WHICH IS A CALM AND WELCOMING PLACE FOR PUPILS TO LEARN". **Ofsted 2022**



Our Vision

A community driven by high expectations and mutual respect providing all individuals with the belief and opportunities to succeed now and in the future.

Our Values

RESILIENCE

KINDNESS

RESPECT

ASPIRATION

CONFIDENCE

“THE PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME PREPARES PUPILS WELL FOR THEIR FUTURE IN MODERN BRITAIN”.

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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 offering a range of subjects at both key stage 3 and key stage 4, with students being able to develop a wealth of knowledge and skills to increase understanding and help all succeed
- > Specialised computer rooms to enable students to develop their digital literacy in an ever-growing digital world
- > Outstanding facilities for sport and academic study within bright, modern buildings
- > 9 science labs in total, designed to allow creative investigations to be conducted independently whilst still allowing effective guidance
- > New state of the art design and technology facilities including dedicated textiles areas



“THE CURRICULUM IS BROAD AND SUITABLY AMBITIOUS FOR ALL PUPILS, INCLUDING PUPILS WITH SEND”.

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- > Inspiration through sport with students being encouraged to become young leaders. We focus on making sport inclusive, educational and aim to promote healthy active lifestyles with the encouragement of positive wellbeing. Enrichment opportunities include a wide variety of sporting clubs and we continue to create links with local Dance and Sport colleges
- > The option of weekly, fully funded, musical instrument or singing tuition for any students up until year 9. This continues if students opt for Music at GCSE
- > Residential weekends to facilities such as Dolly Hall to promote and celebrate our Kirkby Child Values
- > A wide range of after-school clubs including gymnastics, netball, football, dance and athletics
- > 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 an anxious time 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 in various subjects, to support years 3-6 from our partner primary schools
- > 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



“THERE IS A STRONG CULTURE OF SAFEGUARDING AT THE SCHOOL”.

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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 and displaying our Kirkby Child Values
- > Be clear on our high expectations
- > Follow a set of sanctions according to any transgression of these expectations

“LEADERS HAVE HIGH EXPECTATIONS OF PUPILS’ BEHAVIOUR AND LEARNING”.

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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 our expectations for behaviour that our students feel are important.

These cover:

- > In the classroom
- > Moving around the school
- > In the dining room
- > Between lessons
- > Lunch and break times
- > Travelling to and from school

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.

Our 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 CELEBRATE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PEOPLE. PUPILS DO NOT TOLERATE DISCRIMINATION. PUPILS HAVE PRIDE IN THEIR SCHOOL". **Ofsted 2022**



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

“THE EBACC IS NOW AT THE HEART OF THE SCHOOL’S CURRICULUM”.

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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



“PUPILS WITH SEND ARE FULLY INCLUDED IN THE LIFE OF THE SCHOOL AND ACHIEVE WELL”.

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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 personalised curriculum.

In line with our whole school philosophy of ‘Maximising Our Potential’, students with additional needs are carefully and comprehensively assessed in their primary school and on entry to year 7.

For all students with additional needs in year 6, who have a place at the school, meetings and visits will be held to ensure their needs are understood and planned for. Individual student profile and strategies will be created in advance of children joining the School. Additional transition days will be offered and students will be assessed during their first half term to ensure any additional needs are identified and supported within the school.

Students with additional needs will benefit from high quality teaching from specialist teachers 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 and numeracy interventions, as well as confidence and resilience training provided by Emotional Literacy trained staff.





Enrichment 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 Race for Life, Sport Relief and Comic Relief
- > The opportunity to take part in Creative Arts events



“PUPILS EXPERIENCE A WIDE RANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE OF LESSONS THAT INSPIRE AND INTEREST THEM”. **Ofsted 2022**

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
- > Student Ambassadors for various aspects of school life
- > School Parliament with representatives from each form class

Admissions



A full statement of our admissions criteria can be found at:

[www.knowsley.gov.uk/
residents/education-and-schools](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/residents/education-and-schools).

Our oversubscription criteria are:

1. Looked after children and children who were previously looked after but immediately became subject to adoption, a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order. This includes children who have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
2. Children with a sibling already attending the preferred school and who will still be attending at the time of admission.
3. Children attending one of the named area partnership primary schools of Eastcroft Park, Kirkby CE, Millbrook, Northwood, Park Brow, Ravenscroft, Westvale.
4. Distance from the child's home to school measured in a straight line. Those living nearest the school have priority.

"PUPILS FEEL
HAPPY AND SAFE.
PUPILS APPRECIATE
THE STRONG
RELATIONSHIPS THAT
THEY FORGE WITH
STAFF".

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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:

- **Honesty**
- **Kindness**
- **Respect**

The Trust's vision is to provide a world class education. 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.

"STAFF ARE PROUD
TO WORK AT THE
SCHOOL."

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MAXIMISING OUR POTENTIAL

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 driven by high expectations
and mutual respect providing all individuals
with the belief and opportunities to
succeed now and in the future.



Kirkby High School

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Kirkby High School is a member of the Rowan Learning Trust

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