



# CANNOCK CHASE HIGH SCHOOL

A C H I E V E M E N T F O R A L L

I N T E G R I T Y | T E A M W O R K | R E S P O N S I B I L I T Y | E X C E L L E N C E | R E S I L I E N C E



“ The appointment of the current headteacher in April 2015 has energised the academy community and brought about a clear focus on ensuring that all pupils make the progress expected of them. ”

Ofsted 2016

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## CANNOCK CHASE HIGH SCHOOL

A C H I E V E M E N T F O R A L L

## WELCOME

Cannock Chase High school is a vibrant and ambitious learning community with a relentless focus on the highest standards of academic achievement, personal development and equality of opportunity. In everything we do, we are dedicated to reaching our school goal – ‘Achievement for All’.

Our school has a positive ethos, with strong pastoral and academic guidance and a real emphasis on learning. As a school we have a real focus on improving our collective best, team Cannock Chase High School, and our individual best. All students are aware of their potential and that achievement is without limit if they combine effort, hard work and dedication to being the best in everything they do. We believe that it is a happy, safe and enjoyable place to be with a purposeful atmosphere, and that the learning environment we provide allows students to grow and develop academically, socially and personally into responsible, caring and confident young people. We are a traditional school where old fashioned values of discipline, courtesy and good manners support our drive for academic success for every child. We aim to achieve the very best results from every single student academically and prepare them for the world of work.

Everybody involved in our school, from Governors through to Year 7 students, have the highest expectations and work very hard to achieve these outcomes. I am immensely proud to work with so many supportive Governors, outstanding staff and delightful young people. It is a privilege to be Headteacher at Cannock Chase High School.

Iain Turnbull

HEADTEACHER





“ Leaders operate a range of programmes to raise the aspirations of pupils, including schemes run by universities. The belief that all pupils should be encouraged to aim high is a core part of the academy’s ethos. ”

Ofsted 2016

## VISION & VALUES

### VISION

Our school is a vibrant and ambitious learning community with a relentless focus on the highest standards of academic achievement, personal development and equality of opportunity.

We achieve this vision through the operation of routines and procedures, an unwavering focus on results, and by offering the very best teaching and support. Students learn, behave and are well mannered. Teachers teach with skill and rigour, showing courtesy. Staff and students enjoy what they do together.

### VALUES

Underpinning everything we do at Cannock Chase High School are our values that we expect all members of our community to demonstrate in all they do:

- INTEGRITY: Doing the right thing, all the time and respecting each other.
- TEAMWORK: Working together to improve our collective best, as well as our individual best.
- RESPONSIBILITY: Taking responsibility for our actions.
- EXCELLENCE: Being the best we can be in all we do.
- RESILIENCE: Overcoming challenges, remaining focused and working hard.

In our achievement-oriented culture, all students work hard and aspire to be the best that they can be. However, we want our students to have a great life, not just a top job and/or a place at a great university. Therefore, we are deeply committed to opening the hearts and minds of our young people in every way.

## STANDARDS & SUCCESS

### 2016 OUTCOMES

#### KEY STAGE 4

The class of 2016 recorded an increase in all headline measures including our 5 A\*-C pass rate which moved from 56% to 62%. With the national focus on progress (how much value you add to students’ performance) Cannock Chase High School’s Progress 8 score, in comparison to last year’s national data, shows that this year students on average have made a third of a grade better progress than students nationally.

#### SIXTH FORM

We are delighted with our best ever Sixth Form results in the history of the school. In comparison to last year’s national figures, the Sixth Form’s academic progress score would place it as the top performing Sixth Form in the Cannock and Rugeley district.

Fifty seven percent of our A Level students achieved at least one A\*-B grade and 43 students have successfully obtained a place at the university of their choice, with 22% of those having gone on to study at a Russell Group University.

The vocational progress score not only places us as the top performing local school but also means that on average every student makes better than half a grade progress in vocational subjects compared to similar students nationally.

“ We have the district’s top performing Sixth Form in Cannock and Rugeley for academic performance. ”

Based on the 2015 DfE performance tables





“ It was also evident that student targets were reviewed on a regular basis and students were being challenged to improve. ”

Department for Education visit, November 2014

## LEARNING & TEACHING

The core business at Cannock Chase High School is putting the best teachers in front of students to ensure the best academic standards.

Cannock Chase High School teachers have a real respect for their students as learners with their own ideas. We are passionate about teaching and learning and able to present challenging learning tasks. Our teachers' experience allows them to understand their classroom and be more responsive to learners. They are flexible and take every opportunity to maximise learning. They are great seekers and users of feedback. Key elements of our teaching strategy include:

- All staff are non-judgementally observed once a term, at least, to ensure high standards but more importantly to focus on improving and refining our teaching.
- We draw upon the outstanding expertise we have at Cannock Chase High School to deliver a highly personalised training programme for all teaching staff.
- Staff plan every lesson with a real focus on explicit learning activities, effective formative assessment and explicit progress for all students.
- Intervention and support through withdrawal is sharply focused and highly responsive, not just from the teacher and additionally employed teachers but through the increasingly astute deployment of staff and resources as part of the Pupil Premium.

## CURRICULUM

At Cannock Chase High School our students are always at the centre of what we do. Our curriculum is how the aims, values and ethos of the school are met. This includes all lessons, extra-curricular activities and experiences that as a school are planned and delivered to students to promote their academic, emotional, physical, social, moral and spiritual development. We offer a curriculum that is broad and balanced offering a wide range of appropriate and challenging courses to suit the needs of our students.

### STRUCTURE

- Twenty five lesson programme comprising of 5 lessons per day followed by 30 minutes of tutor time;
- Each academic year from Year 7 to Year 11 is divided into two mixed ability bands taking account of individual needs;
- At Key Stage 4 (Years 9, 10 and 11) all students have access to a wide range of exciting academic, vocational and BTEC courses in school, tailored to their individual needs and abilities and delivered by talented, specialist teachers.

### KEY STAGE 3

Key Stage 3: English, Maths, Science, Art, Drama, French, Literacy Plus, Geography, History, ICT, Music, Physical Education, Religious Education and Curriculum+.

### KEY STAGE 4

ALL STUDENTS: English Language, English Literature, Maths, Science.

OPTIONS: Triple Science, History, Geography, French, Physical Education (GCSE and BTEC), Computer Science, Sociology, Drama, Art, Applied Health, Creative iMedia, Design Graphics, Design Materials, Psychology, Business Studies, Child Development, Statistics, V Cert Food, Dance and Applied ICT.

“ The curriculum is broad and balanced, both in the main school and the sixth form. Pupils access a range of courses, academic and vocational, to meet their needs and aspirations. ”

Ofsted 2016





“The emphasis on quality marking and feedback to students suggested a degree of consistency and ‘action points’ and the use of both summative and formative assessment was impressive.”

Department for Education visit, November 2014

## ASSESSMENT FOR LEARNING

The key to student success is progress over time. The best way to ensure progress is to provide effective marking and feedback, so we make this one of our key focuses every year. We work hard to harness the power of feedback by:

- Having a clear marking policy;
- Ensuring that students act on feedback;
- Providing feedback to parents through phone calls, data reports, parents' evenings and a personalised written report;
- Introducing a termly student review with their tutor to encourage students to reflect on what they are doing well and what they need to do to make even more progress;
- Encouraging students to contact their teachers for support and feedback.

## PARENTS AS PARTNERS

Cannock Chase High School has a focused approach which supports parents in working with their children to improve their learning. We support parents by:

- Signing a home-school agreement that outlines our shared commitment to hard work and consistent support of one another;
- Staff contacting home to share any concerns and general information relating to students' progress whenever necessary;
- Parents receiving their child's progress grades three times a year and a personalised written report;
- Providing access to our policies and general information on our website, [www.cannockchasehigh.com](http://www.cannockchasehigh.com);
- Providing a personalised log-in to our homework recording system. We encourage parents to view their child's work at home and discuss the next steps with them;
- Joining Twitter and Facebook in order to connect with families and share information rapidly;
- Holding Parent Consultation Team meetings to discuss the development of Cannock Chase High School.



“The academy is well regarded by parents, pupils and staff. Staff and pupils are strongly supportive of the current leadership and testify to the positive effects of changes that have been made this academic year, particularly in relation to pupils' behaviour.”

Ofsted 2016



“Pupils look smart and wear their uniforms with pride. They conduct themselves sensibly around the academy site [...] Inspectors found pupils to be courteous, respectful and helpful.”

Ofsted 2016

## PASTORAL CARE

Cannock Chase High School operates a strong and effective pastoral system based upon traditional values of respect, manners and good behaviour. The message at Cannock Chase High School is that all students aspire to be the best that they can be. In our achievement orientated culture all students work hard. The Pastoral Team are there to support each and every student to ensure every student feels valued and supported, academically achieves and holistically grows and develops during their time with us.

Our Pastoral System operates in a number of ways:

- Pastoral Casework - That is individual work with students who are having problems, be they of an academic, vocational, social, emotional or behavioural nature.
- Pastoral Curriculum - This includes both the 'hidden curriculum' that is the ethos of the school, the day-to-day relationships between staff and students, the value system of a school, the opportunities for moral, spiritual, social and cultural development as well as the more formal and overt pastoral curriculum, which would include, though not be limited to, the PSHE work whether done by form tutors or by subject specialists.
- Pastoral Systems - That is our rewards and sanctions system in school that ensures a calm and controlled environment where students can learn without distractions whilst being rewarded and acknowledged for their unique contribution and efforts.

### THE YEAR SYSTEM

Cannock Chase High School operates a 'horizontal' based system. Students are placed together in Year Groups under the care and guidance of a form tutor. The form tutor is the first point of contact for each student, providing advice and guidance on a daily basis. Each Year Group is led by a Director of Year who has an overview of the Year Group both from an academic and social perspective.

Directors of Year set the tone for each Year Group and are a visible daily presence around school.

Directors of Year are supported by non-teaching Pastoral Managers and a Director of Student Services who provide additional support and guidance to students and to parents.

The Pastoral System is overseen by an Assistant Headteacher responsible for all aspects of pastoral care and safeguarding.

### THE HOUSE SYSTEM

There is also a strong House tradition and allegiance at Cannock Chase High School. Our House System provides a framework for internal competitions and student development. It is hoped that every child will support his or her House and participate in as many activities as possible during their time with us.

Upon arrival at the school in Year 7, students will be placed in one of four Houses and will remain within this House for the duration of their time with us.

“The care and support that all three of my children have and continue to receive at Cannock Chase High School continues to be a really strong and positive part of the school.”

Parent, Awards Evening 2015



“ 100% of the current Year 7 agree (58% strongly agreed) that Cannock Chase induction helped them to have a successful start in Year 7. ”

Year 7 Transition Questionnaire 2015



## TRANSITION

The transition from primary to secondary school is important in the lives of children and their families. We have planned extensive KS2 to KS3 transition arrangements to ensure a smooth start at Cannock Chase High School.

- A new intake evening that includes presentations by key staff and students.
- Visits to and from feeder primary schools throughout April, May and June.
- Two exciting transition days where students experience typical days at Cannock Chase and start to learn some of our key routines.
- Parent meeting with your child's tutor to ensure that every parent clearly understands our expectations.
- A two week summer school in the summer holiday.
- A structured induction at the start in September to help all our students begin to develop good learning habits.
- A Year 7 'settling in' evening in September where parents and staff can meet to discuss their child's start.
- Our annual Welcome Club offered in September offers a range of activities to strengthen new and existing friendships.

Our Learning Support Team organises further visits for our more vulnerable students. We also gather comprehensive information about every child in order for us to set targets, plan intervention and develop a curriculum with some sense of continuity to give all students the best possible start. We strive to meet the learning needs of all students, including those with special educational needs.

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Extra-curricular activities are a very important and vibrant part of all students' lives at Cannock Chase High School. The school's philosophy is to provide opportunities for all at a level appropriate to students' abilities in a wide range of activities. Our intention is that all students enjoy their extra-curricular experience and develop self-respect, teamwork, confidence and other social skills alongside the activity specific skills.

An extensive programme of educational journeys, camps, sporting trips, adventure holidays and field studies, both in this country and abroad, is undertaken each year. A wide range of clubs and activities take place after school. There are many sporting activities in which the students can take part. Sport is a real strength of the school, and many of our students and teams are successful at county, regional and national level. Music and Drama are important aspects of the school community and along with numerous concerts and performances we also offer our annual Chasefest arts week which provides students with a wide range of interesting and exciting creative activities to participate in and ends with our outdoor music concert on the school field.

The school also has a proud tradition of fundraising for different causes and each year thousands of pounds are donated to charity. We recognise and encourage the real sense of achievement which is generated by such endeavours.

“ Pupils' high rates of progression to education, employment or training demonstrate that pupils are well-prepared for their next phase of learning. ”

Ofsted 2016



“ 33% of our 2015 Year 13 cohort progressed to Russell Group universities (regarded as 24 of the top performing universities in the UK), significantly above the national average of 9%. ”



## SIXTH FORM

As the top performing Sixth Form of 2015 in the Cannock and Rugeley district for academic progress and with statistically significantly higher levels of progress on our vocational courses, Cannock Chase High School's Sixth Form proudly sets a standard of excellence that is highly respected in the region.

Our Sixth Form is dedicated to providing the highest standard of education and experience for 16-18 year olds, preparing all students to be 'future-ready'.

The vision of our Sixth Form is a place where every student, regardless of background, thrives and achieves personal excellence. Achieving higher than national average levels of progress on both academic and vocational courses, our Sixth Form ensures all students have the opportunity to excel on their chosen pathway.

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum, of both academic and vocational subjects, supporting every student to achieve the profile of qualifications they need for their future. We also provide high quality information, advice and guidance to all students regarding careers and progression, with long-established links to universities, Higher Level Apprenticeship providers and employers. All students are also supported through the Sixth Form Guidance Programme, which seeks to develop the life skills, employability and careers guidance necessary for all our students to be 'future ready'.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

If you believe that Cannock Chase High School is the right choice for your child and if you require any further information or assistance please feel free to contact us.

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