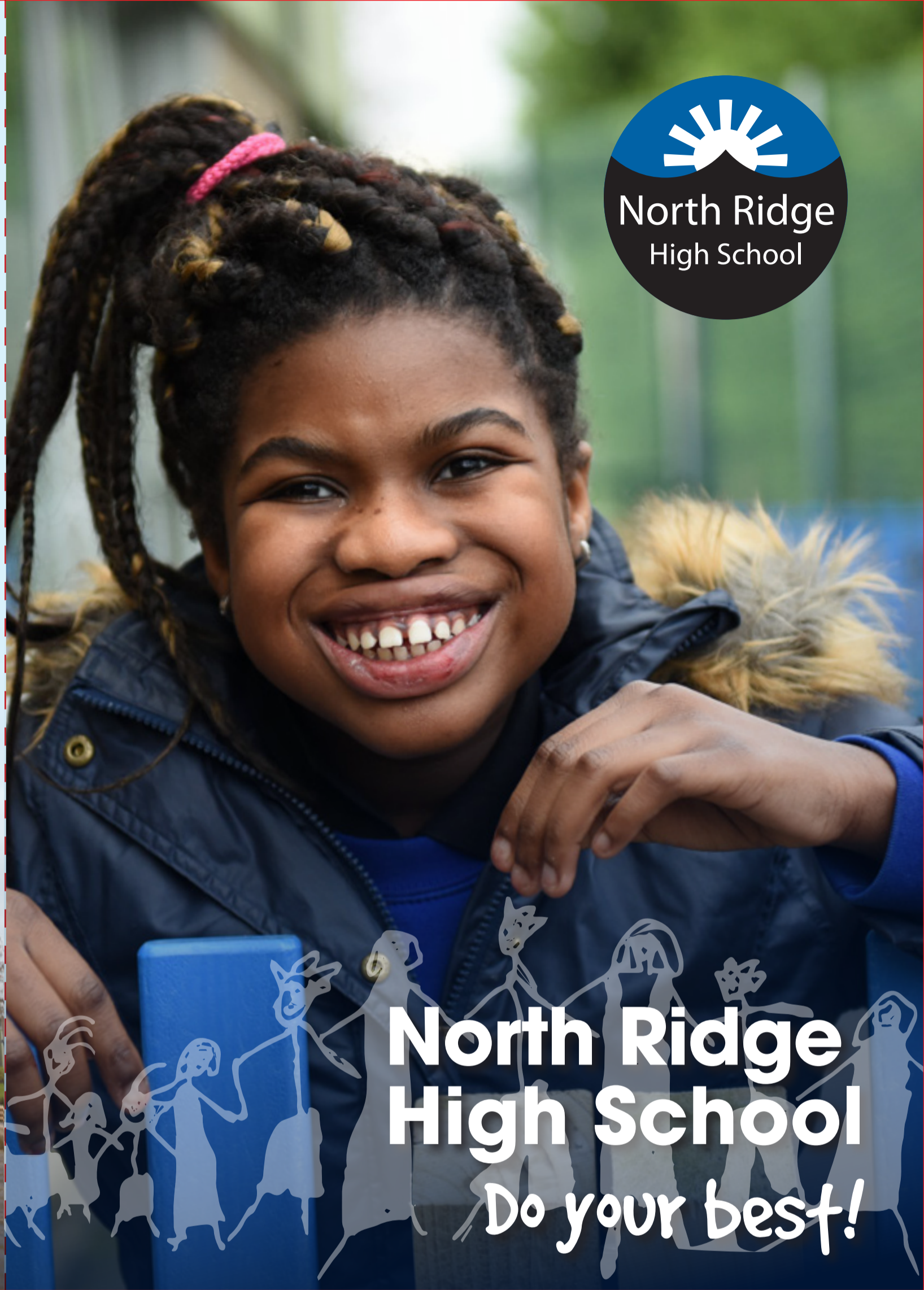


North Ridge High School



North Ridge High School

Higher Blackley Education Village
Alworth Road
Higher Blackley
Manchester
M9 0RP



**North Ridge
High School**
Do your best!

Website: www.northridge.manchester.sch.uk/

Email: admin@northridge.manchester.sch.uk

Telephone: 0161 5079700

Should you require further information or an opportunity to visit please do not hesitate to contact us by telephone or email. You can also find additional information on our website which has a link to our twitter account.

Welcome!

North Ridge High School

On behalf of the staff and governors of North Ridge High School, welcome and thank you for your interest in our school that meets the diverse special educational needs of students between the ages of 11 and 19.

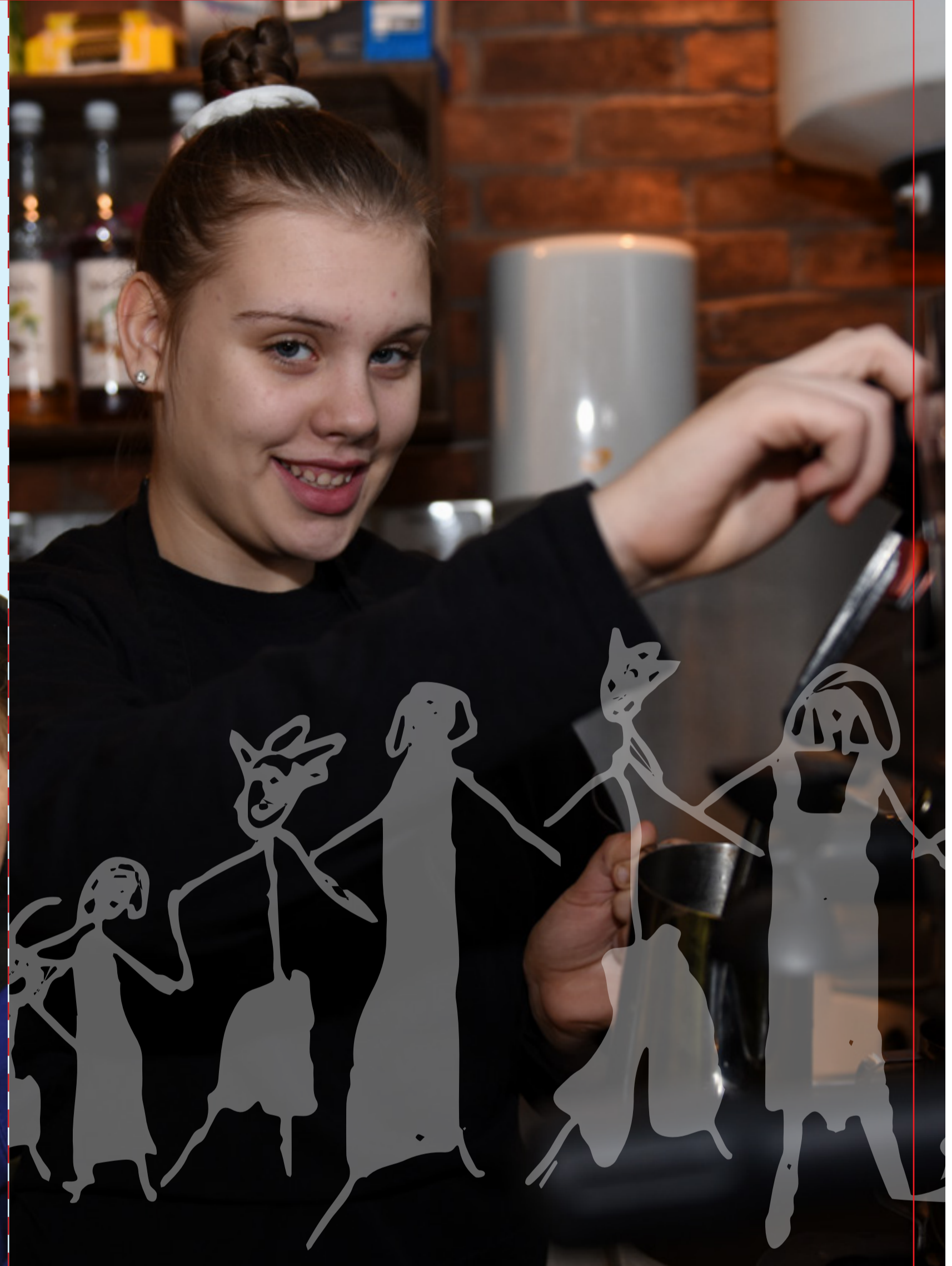
The prospectus will help you understand our ethos, and our dedication in providing our students with a broad, creative and inspiring curriculum within school, the local community and in particular providing very exciting work based learning. Teaching and learning is at the heart of North Ridge, we use every opportunity to help students do their best, and more.

We strive for success and this is achieved with a strong team of highly skilled teachers and continually developed support staff, a dedicated Governing Body, a wide network of community partners and an Inclusive, safe and stimulating quality environment for your child. We value the support of our parents and carers, and will work in close partnership with you to create a positive atmosphere in which students can fulfil their potential and grow in self-confidence with respect for the people and environment around them.

Students feel very safe and secure in our school. They enjoy the strong supportive relationships with staff and develop friendships which help them feel settled. We will endeavor to meet all the individualities of our students and invite you to visit the school to see the provision and assist you in making a very important decision.

We look forward to meeting with you

Mrs Bernice Kostick
Headteacher





Mission Statement

The students, staff and governors will do their best in all aspects of life at North Ridge High. We will foster learning within an environment which is disciplined, calm, safe, stimulating, and enjoyable and within which there is mutual respect.

Aims and objectives

- ★ Provide opportunities for all pupils to learn and achieve
- ★ Treat each member of our school as an individual and include them in school life regardless of race, gender, religion, sexuality or ability
- ★ Encourage pupils to enjoy the social interaction of coming to school
- ★ Promote an atmosphere and ethos that encourage pupils' spiritual, moral, social, physical and cultural development and prepare all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life
- ★ Provide opportunities for pupils to access the local community and facilities
- ★ Encourage the pupils to be responsible and caring members of the wider community
- ★ Promote self-esteem by recognising and celebrating the achievement of individual pupils
- ★ Promote the ability to respect other people's points of view regardless of race, gender, religion, sexuality or ability
- ★ Promote, where appropriate, the inclusion of pupils within and outside school, ensuring that such inclusion is in accord with parental wishes and is of benefit to the pupil
- ★ Promote and encourage the involvement of parents and carers in all aspects of school life by welcoming them into school and helping them add to the positive and friendly atmosphere of the school
- ★ Provide the community with opportunities to value our pupils as individuals and recognise their contribution to society
- ★ Work with a multidisciplinary team to meet the individual needs of each pupil
- ★ Encourage pupils to develop, economic awareness, employability skills and aspire to gaining employment as adults.



Equalities Acts statement

Under the public sector equality duty, all schools must have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010; to advance equality of opportunity between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it and to foster good relations across all protected characteristics. This means schools must take into account equality considerations when policies are being developed, adopted and implemented.

For our school policy please contact the main office. It is also available on our school website www.northridge.manchester.sch.uk

Home-School Partnership

A partnership between home and school plays a vital role in the success of your child's continuing development and good lines of communication between us are essential. We actively encourage personal contact and are always here to listen and support.

To help you understand the work of the school and your child's progress we offer a wide range of communication opportunities. We send out a newsletter each term, celebrating collective and individual success, our website is well maintained and packed with lots of information, and we use Groupcall and home school diaries to communicate on a daily basis. More recently we have introduced a Twitter feed which can be accessed through our website. We also keep in touch with telephone conversations, letters and we have a diary of events each year for you to attend.

EHCP Reviews

The contents of your child's Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP) are discussed at your child's Annual Review. The focus of the review is to look over the progress in the past year and decide whether the outcomes are still appropriate and update the plans accordingly.

You and your child's views, wishes and feelings have to be considered therefore we will make every effort to enable you to attend along with any professionals engaged with you or your child, the class teacher and a senior leader at North Ridge.

Reports

An annual report is provided in the summer term. This details the progress of the student in each area of the curriculum. Parents are encouraged to attend the parents evenings held twice a year to discuss the report with the class teacher.

Guidance and Support

With the assistance of community partners, our family support worker and other professionals we aim to support students and their families to improve their experiences both in school and at home. We offer regular workshops and coffee mornings, and courses planned around concerns and issues you are faced with including attendance, behaviour, local services, health and housing.

Attendance

North Ridge is committed to providing an education of the highest quality for all its pupils, we recognise that this can only be achieved by supporting and promoting excellent school attendance for all. Attending school on a regular basis will give your child the opportunity to have friendship groups, improve social skills, have fun and feel included. Your child will learn new things and develop skills as well as increase their own confidence and self esteem. At North Ridge every pupil counts and every day counts, only when pupils attend school regularly can they achieve their full potential.





School curriculum Teaching and Learning

All students at North Ridge High School follow a broad and balanced curriculum which strives to motivate and provide challenges which enables us to celebrate their success whatever their ability. We recognise the individual needs of our students to follow Personal Education Plans that are varied and inspiring that utilise the specialist rooms and equipment we have access to. We have a number of specialist rooms including a hydrotherapy pool, a multisensory and soft play room an extensive outside play area and allotment, a newly furnished food technology room and a fully equipped gym.



Open Futures

We have embraced the Open Futures curriculum at North Ridge. Open Futures is a programme that helps teachers to build children's ability 'to think and to do'. It develops skills of enquiry, in three strands of practical activity. The activities, askit, growit, cookit and filmit are used to help deliver a school's existing curriculum providing hands-on learning which gives children a sense of purpose and helps to develop an understanding of the world around them.



Outreach and Inclusion

As part of inclusion at NRHS we work closely with Our Lady's RC High School to integrate North Ridge pupils who can benefit from a wider range of experiences within a mainstream setting. Pupils can further develop specific skills and also experience a different educational and social environment.

NRHS provides support for mainstream schools in the Manchester area. We share good practice and offer advice and guidance on supporting pupils with complex learning needs within a mainstream setting.

Teachers report greater understanding around pupils' learning needs and differentiated materials. This helps pupils reach their full potential. North Ridge also collaborates with other local service providers, offering them personalised training packages to support projects within the community.

The Team Teach Approach

~Working together to safeguard children and staff~

'Team Teach' is the approach adopted by us at North Ridge High School to manage challenging and aggressive behaviour. All of our teaching and non-teaching staff have been trained in the use of this approach and the Head teacher keeps a list of those staff authorised to use Team Teach and they receive regular refresher training from instructors.

The basic philosophy of the approach is as follows:

- ★ 95% or more of all incidents should be managed without recourse to physical intervention.
- ★ It is a flexible framework of responses stressing a holistic approach.
- ★ De-escalation of situations is a priority (e.g. using communication skills, humour, distraction etc.)
- ★ Gradual and graded positive handling techniques are based on providing the maximum amount of care control and therapeutic support for the shortest possible time necessary to ensure the safety of all concerned

All incidents of positive handling are reported, recorded, monitored and evaluated. Parents will be informed of any that involve a child being held with more restrictive holds.

More information regarding the Team-Teach Approach can be found via the internet by visiting www.team-teach.co.uk





Beyond The Classroom

North Ridge High School offers a wonderful variety of activities in and outside normal school hours allowing students to develop confidence and excel in different ways. There is something for everyone. Every morning we run a breakfast club which is free for all to access. The club is available from 8.30am to 9.00am which is the start of the school day.

Playscheme

We also organise play-schemes which run during the school holidays. There is a small cost for students to access but the scheme offers students the opportunity to visit places like Applejacks Farm, Lego-Land, Jump Nation and includes activities like bowling, crazy golf and cooking.

Afterschool club

The Afterschool club runs one evening a week from 3.15pm to 5.00pm. There are lots of planned activities and the students can also utilise the specialist rooms and equipment we have available at North Ridge. We have pizza nights, bouncy castles, cake decorating, football and an end of session disco.

Lunch Activities

After lunch students participate in a chosen lunch club activity. The range is varied to ensure that everyone enjoys the experience; some examples are Cheerleading, bowling, karaoke or ICT and ICT club.

Duke of Edinburgh

The Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme is popular with our students. As well as an expedition involving overnight camping, the DofE includes volunteering, physical activity and skills sections.





Employability

We have numerous ways to encourage pupils to develop economic awareness, employability skills and aspire to gaining employment as adults. The Cup and Cake Café opened to the public in September 2015. It is located at the Abraham Moss Centre and is expertly run by our Sixth Form Students.

The café provides an aspirational working and learning environment which enables the students to build upon the knowledge they have gained whilst working in the Community Café at school.

Students will develop a portfolio of desirable skills that are transferable to a wide range of employment opportunities post North Ridge. The café menu offers a range of meal options to suit everyone's tastes and serves delicious homemade cakes, freshly baked each morning. You can dine in and socialise with friends and family or grab a quick bite to eat whilst you are on the move.

The 2nd Handmade shop is located next door to the Cup and Cake Café. The shop sells a variety of preloved clothing as well as high-quality hand crafted cards and gifts expertly made by the pupils at North Ridge. The shop provides the opportunity for students to gain work experience in a retail environment developing their customer service skills as well as a portfolio of business skills.

Class Nightingale is a school run, supported internship based at North Manchester General Hospital in Crumpsall where students take part in specialised work experience in partnership with the Pennine Acute Trust.

Work related learning is at the heart of everything we do at the supported internship. In class Nightingale, the focus is placed on developing the student's confidence and independent thinking.

Self-motivation is also required for the student's success in potential work in the future. Students take part in real-life work and have the opportunity to work alongside NHS staff in departments such as Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Theatres Stores, Catering and HSDU.

As part of the NHS Volunteer programme at North Manchester General Hospital, students in Key Stage 5 have the opportunity to provide a valuable service for patients being cared for at the hospital. Students visit each ward offering newspapers, confectionary and drinks to patients who cannot access the hospital shops. For North Ridge students this is a key opportunity to practice their skills in areas such as; money handling, social communication and dealing with the general public.

