



#### **School Information**

Hall Park is a sponsored academy, which became part of The Redhill Academy Trust in July 2014. The Chief Executive of the Trust, Mr Andrew Burns (OBE), is a National Leader in Education and works with the Regional Director, Mr Richard Pierpoint, to provide direct support and guidance for the academy.

The academy caters for students from 11-18 years and currently has a total of 889 on roll. Recruitment in Year 7 and Year 12 is a key priority for the school. The core purpose of Hall Park Academy, as with all schools in the Trust is raising the achievement of all students. The school has been on a significant journey of improvement in the last 9 years. In 2015 Hall Park Academy was the most improved school in Nottinghamshire according to DfE performance tables and in 2016 the school was ranked 2nd place in the county with a Progress 8 score of 0.46. Recently, there have been challenges around student progress and a significant amount of work is being implemented to raise student achievement.

The academy offers a broad, balanced and ambitious curriculum for all students. Students follow a three year Key Stage 3 curriculum model and choose their Key Stage 4 options as part of the Pathways process in Year 9. The number of students entered for the EBACC suite of qualifications is above the national average each year.

Hall Park has a flourishing Sixth Form. Each year students achieve top grades and progress to a wide variety of aspirational next steps in education, employment and training, including to places at some of the country's most prestigious universities and highly sought-after degree apprenticeships. Recruitment to the Sixth Form is also a priority and numbers on roll have increased to approximately 100 in recent years. With larger cohorts now in the main school coming through the goal is to see numbers more than 150 in the sixth form in the next 3-5 years.

Developing teaching and learning is at the heart of school improvement, alongside a clear line management structure and greater accountability of staff at all levels for student progress. Hall Park has a teaching staff of 58 full-time equivalent, supported by 37 support staff, including a team of classroom assistants and 4 cover supervisors. The school places a high emphasis on professional development and staff greatly benefit from the school being a member of The Redhill College of Leadership and Development, which offers an extensive programme of CPD to staff at all levels.

Staff with responsibility work closely with colleagues from other schools in the Trust as part of subject and strategic area networks. Appraisal is closely linked to student performance and professional development in equal measure. The leadership team currently consists of the Headteacher, 2 Deputy Headteacher, 2 Assistant Headteachers, an Associate Assistant Headteacher in the role of SENDCo and an operations manager. Each year an SLT secondment opportunity is provided to staff, who can apply to join the leadership team for one year as a CPD opportunity. The leadership team knows the crucial importance of maintaining a high profile around school as well as providing supportive line management to curriculum and pastoral teams.

The school operates a house system with vertical tutoring. Nearly all staff are tutors and tutor groups are kept relatively small at around 22 students. PSHE is delivered on a rolling programme of lessons and the Hall Park Pledge programme encourages all students to participate in co-curriculum activities to further their development. Core values are encapsulated in our DRIVE philosophy which develops a genuine community ethos within the academy. Students are rewarded with house points for demonstrating the characteristics of a Hall Park Learner. Student leadership opportunities are offered each year. A Head Boy and Head Girl are chosen for the Year 13 cohort and alongside other responsibilities, lead the student council.

There is an extensive range of co-curricular activities at the school and all students are encouraged to participate. It is packaged together and promoted through the Curriculum Plus brochure. There is an extensive range of house events, sporting and performing arts activities for students to engage in. Staff organise and lead many educational visits, both at home and abroad each year. The school runs a thriving Duke of Edinburgh scheme for students in Year 9 and above. This year over 50% of Year 9 students have enrolled in the programme.

The school's Careers and Aspirations Leader and Careers Advisor are instrumental in promoting and supporting students' decision making about their future options as they approach the end of Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5, alongside the delivery of a comprehensive careers guidance programme that starts in Year 7.

Parents are supportive of the school and appreciate the caring and friendly atmosphere the academy generates. Considerable emphasis is placed on the parents' consultation evenings which follow on from reports and interim reviews. A termly newsletter for parents is a popular means of sharing news of events that have taken place at the academy. Regular communication also occurs through letters, emails and texts alongside updates on the homepage of the website and the school social media accounts. In addition, we host a range of information evenings for parents and conduct regular surveys to gauge opinion and seek feedback.