



**Respect
Collaboration
of Schools**



**Castle
School**

About RESPECT Collaboration of Schools

As a collaboration we believe that *every day is a new day and a fresh start! Great today, Better tomorrow!* We are committed to the philosophy of 'We Never Give Up'. We believe that in all our work students, staff and families deserve every opportunity to succeed.

Created 2023, RESPECT is currently three LA maintained schools, all complex organisations, individually, but we work collaboratively to ensure we can best meet the needs of the young people who attend our schools and provisions, ultimately ensuring young people achieve success.

Although only recently formed, we have been working closely together for some time, you may have known us as Kingsmead and Newton's Walk but now we comprise of Kingsmead School, Bridge Street School, Castle School and Junction 16. For all our stakeholders we think it makes us easier to understand, it also ensures young people and families get the right support when they need it. Importantly for each of our schools they have a clear and defined identity, which is supported by leaders and governors.

Over the coming year we expect to evolve and change, although we don't entirely know what this looks like, we do know that it will be an exciting adventure, an adventure that key stakeholders will be part of the decision making process in its evolution. These key decisions must enhance our strong reputation and continue to foster even greater confidence in our communities.

Currently we are aiming to;

1. Develop and enhance the wide range of opportunities for young people through the schools and provisions we work with and intend to further collaborate with.
2. Develop our school environments ensuring student needs are at the centre of what we do.
3. Collaborate with other schools and local authorities to support families so that children can be educated appropriately in their local areas.
4. Create further efficiencies in our organisations by realising economies of scale and effective commissioning strategies with schools, individuals and local authorities.

We know that in 2023/24 we were successful, our families, parents and commissioners have told us this. There is a sense of trust and care across Derby City for the work that we do and strong relationships have been built, these are personalised in there approach for the stakeholders we work with.

Through our aims we have focussed on the following three key areas.

1. Having high but realistic expectations- Schools are an important part of life and give children, families and staff a sense of belonging and a community to work with.

2. Breaking down these barriers- School for some, is a place where some experiences have not always been positive.
3. Show empathy to all; staff should be compassionate and consistent in their approach, showing tolerance and respect to all.

To achieve our mission and aims, we know our people and teams are the most valuable resources in schools, we provide a broad range of opportunities to progress and develop through a variety of different mechanisms both formally and informally.

We know identity, like our Collaboration, is still developing, its key that they are suited to pupil needs. It's important that our schools reflect the needs of young people and families who require them, which retain the need for difference and high expectations. This will be key in retaining the trust of our communities, strong leadership and governance will help us achieve this.

Being part of a collaboration of schools, in a tight knit education community brings many benefits in terms of knowledge, support and working together. This has already helped us improve, but the journey has only just begun!