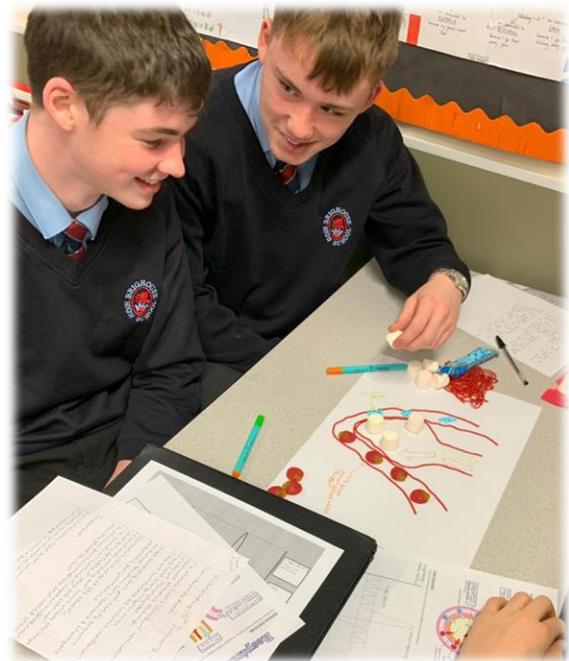


Brighouse High School

Staff Prospectus

2020-2021



Brighouse High School - Context and Ethos

Brighouse High School is a school which has high expectations and is uncompromising in working to meet the needs of individual pupils. In March 2017 OFSTED Inspectors reported that "there is a strong sense of 'togetherness' across the school" and that pupils "felt part of a caring school community that is fully inclusive with a trusting ethos. Pupils feel valued as learners". We focus on raising achievement through a framework of positive behaviour. The school is on a split site with the Sixth Form being taught in a separate college building one mile from the Finkil Street site.

As a school we emphasise team work and an inclusive and evolutionary approach to change. The school is innovative and has taken a lead nationally in themes such as leadership, personalisation and enterprise. We are the founding school of the Valley Learning Partnership which is a growing organisation which brings strength to schools through partnerships and collaboration. The partnership currently includes two secondary schools and three primary schools who share common ethos and values.

Leadership Structure

The Headteacher at Brighouse High School is Richard Horsfield, supported by the senior leadership team of two Deputy Heads and seven Assistant Headteachers.

Intake of pupils and the Area served by the School

Brighouse is a compact market town situated close to the Pennines, the Yorkshire Dales and the M62. The cities of Leeds and Bradford are within easy access. The traditional industrial base of the town was textiles and engineering but this has been replaced by a much more diverse economy supporting a number of small workshop enterprises.

The School draws the majority of its pupils from Brighouse and the marginal villages which surround the town. The pupil intake is of varied socio-economic background and from a wide range of housing from the town houses of Brighouse to the suburbs of Clifton, Lightcliffe and Hove Edge.

Brighouse High School is committed to providing a first class education for all its pupils and has developed strong links with the community of Brighouse and district.

There are currently 1377 pupils, including 340 in the Sixth Form. The school is popular with parents and is consistently oversubscribed.

An OFSTED inspection in 2017 graded Brighouse High as Good in every category. The school consistently achieves results at Key Stage 4 which are above the national average. The school pursues a pupil focused entry policy including some early entry to GCSE's; the published performance tables therefore do not always reflect the standards actually achieved. At Post-16 the school has a track record of improvement and success and maintains an open & inclusive entry policy. At Post-16 Brighouse High works collaboratively with other Calderdale High Schools as part of the 'C6' Consortium.

Accommodation

The school currently occupies two sites. Years 7-11 occupy premises at Hove Edge, a pleasant residential area about one mile away from the town centre.

Teaching Rooms (Hove Edge Site)

Hall / Dining Room

2 Drama Studios

Art Rooms

2 Music Practice Rooms

CDT Suite (with 3 inter-connecting rooms and a graphics studio with ICT facilities)

Careers Library

Two Food Technology Rooms

Two Maths lecture-style rooms

Textiles room

7 Science Laboratories

6 ICT Rooms

2 Music Classrooms

Literacy & Media Hub

2 Sports Halls (with community usage at evenings and weekends)

1 Gymnasium

Nurture Room

Classrooms for:

English

Modern Languages

History

Geography

RE

Mathematics

Business Studies (With ICT enhanced facilities)



Staff and Administration Rooms / Outdoor Areas

General Office / Reception Area

Headteacher's Office

Secretaries' Office

Deputy Headteacher's offices

Assistant Heads' Offices

First Aid Room

Reprographics Room

Staff Room

Parents Room

Facilities Manager's Office

Year Tutors' Offices

Meeting Room

Finance Office

Two Hard Surface Playing Areas

Car Parking

Extensive Playing Fields

Sixth Form Centre (Halifax Road Site)

The Sixth Form is housed in a stone building (c 1910) near the centre of town and was refurbished to a very high standard in 1999. The Sixth Form facilities include laboratories, study and common rooms, computer rooms and pleasant teaching rooms. Almost £1 million was spent to ensure that the centre has an agreeable and suitable environment for both staff and students. The Mulberry Centre on this site is a modern facility with ICT resources and capacity for both student learning and external conferences.

Personalised Curriculum

The school believes in setting high standards for, and developing the talents of, all its pupils and in providing them with a rounded and balanced education. To this end, in Years 10 and 11, all pupils are guided into 3 routes and choose option subjects from a wide range of academic and applied options in addition to the usual compulsory core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science. All pupils follow courses in P.E., ICT, Learning for Life, and Religious Studies.

The Post-16 Curriculum has been developed extensively with a full range of academic 'A' levels and a well-established and growing number of successful Applied courses.

The curricular structure is based on the framework of Heads of Department and thematic areas. Each Head of Department is supported through the Line Management System by a Deputy or Assistant Headteacher.

The Special Needs Department has a SENDCO and a team of Additional Needs Technicians. A Reading Retrieval Programme is in place aimed at raising the standard of reading skills in pupils who have a reading age two years below their chronological age. In addition, integrated learning systems are available to improve Literacy and Numeracy.

The major component in the current school improvement plan is to consolidate and extend the school's raising achievement programme. The school has set priorities to improve the consistency of performance in Mathematics and to address the achievement gap for disadvantaged pupils. Raising achievement at Key Stage 5 has been a particular focus in recent years and has led to significant year on year improvement.

The school is proud of its record of innovative curriculum practice. The KS4 Guided Choices curriculum has been praised nationally and continues to offer choice and breadth to our students. The school prides itself on the standards of teaching and learning taking place in the classroom and has developed an effective model of quality assurance and monitoring to improve practice in the classroom. The Careers Education and Guidance Curriculum is a key strength of the school and the Head of Careers and IAG is recognised as a Lead Practitioner in the region.

Pupil Support

A school council and house system further develops pupil involvement in school life. We aim to make the school a safe, happy and hardworking place for the pupils and believe that this can be best achieved through a framework of good discipline, encouraging pupils to take responsibility for their own behaviour. We believe that if pupils know what is expected of them and the standards are applied consistently, they will respond. Therefore, the insistence by all staff on the Respect Code of Conduct, policies and standards is considered important. The whole school behaviour policy is rigorously applied and is monitored and adapted on a regular basis.

Each year the school has 3 Super Learning Days which focus on themes related to personal and social education and enterprise.

The school has a uniform policy and a homework policy, believing that the first encourages pupils to take pride in their school and their appearance and that the other helps to develop habits or individual study. Sixth Form students do not wear a uniform but are asked to dress sensibly and appropriately.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Our philosophy of broadening horizons for pupils and staff weaves a thread through all aspects of school life.

The school has a long and successful tradition of involvement in Sport, Music, Drama and Outdoor Education. In terms of sports the standard of both girls' and boys' team games is high with a significant participation level. Considerable success has been achieved locally, regionally and nationally. Junior Sports Leader and Community Sports Leader Awards have been added to the curriculum and take up is excellent. The school climbing wall has been a welcome addition to sports facilities.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme is open for pupils from Year 10 upwards. Every year large numbers of students gain their Bronze & Silver Award and the numbers taking Gold Award is increasing. Outdoor pursuits provision in the school is growing rapidly and there is the opportunity for pupils to have residential experience during both lower and middle school. A considerable emphasis is placed on community links and charity work; there are also design and ICT clubs after school and at lunchtime. The school is also heavily involved in charity work and over the last two years has raised money for Children in Need, Comic Relief and other nominated causes. Charity work is a major focus of the House System. House points can be achieved for participation in fund raising activities.



The Wider Community



Links with parents are strengthened through termly electronic news bulletins that keep parents informed about what is happening at school.

Links with industry are many and varied - through Governors, through Years 12 - 13 Work Experience schemes, Super Learning Days and via direct links with individual companies.

The school has links with other schools and countries in Europe: especially France, Germany and Spain. Visits have also been made to the Isle of Man, USA, Italy, Iceland and China. Football trips have taken place to Spain and Italy. We also operate an exchange programme with a partner school in Germany.

Staff

The teaching staff complement is 97, with 1 Chief Operations Manager, a team of Clerical/Administrative staff, 1 Accountant, 1 Facilities Manager, 4 ICT Technicians, a team of Technicians, a team of Additional Needs Technicians and Cover Supervisors, a small Maintenance team, including, 1 Clerk of Works, 1 Caretaker and 2 Maintenance/Grounds persons as well as Midday Supervisors, Cleaners and Catering staff making a total of 183. The school believes very strongly that all staff are the most important influence in the educational progress of young people and is committed to the professional fulfilment and development of all colleagues.

There is a strong sense of leadership, with leaders and managers across the school providing encouragement and support for the roles and in creating an environment in which staff are encouraged to actively contribute to the ongoing development of those roles.

The school is proud that the 2017 OFSTED report recognised the strength of the wider staff team and identified that 'sense of togetherness' as a positive element of our school.