



WALTON HIGH SCHOOL



• P R O S P E C T U S •

LET WALTON HIGH SCHOOL BE YOUR PATHWAY TO SUCCESS

The fundamental intention of Walton High School in order to serve its community, is to sustain an ethos throughout the entire school that promotes teaching, learning and achievement of the highest quality thereby enabling every individual to be valued and valuable in their own right.



WALTON HIGH SCHOOL





Headteacher's Message

This is a school where we pride ourselves on preparing our students for a bright future. We are immensely proud of our school as one that promotes high expectations of academic endeavour and personal development. We aim to equip our students with the knowledge and skills to enable them to succeed, not only in their examinations but in all aspects of school life and beyond.

We want our students to be proud, respectful and kind at all times. This culture and ethos is at the heart of our school.

You will find a thriving and happy school with a broad and balanced curriculum, supplemented by a wide range of extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities. We encourage our students to take advantage of everything the school has to offer and to discover a talent or interest that develops their love of learning and sense of pride in themselves and respect for others.

We greatly value the support of our parents and I look forward to working with you to ensure that your child has a happy and successful time at Walton.

Mr A Leese BA (Hons)
Headteacher

Chair of Governors' Message

"It is a privilege to be Chair of Governors at Walton High School. As a former student myself, it is a pleasure to give something back to this excellent school.

As Governors we work closely with our outstanding Headteacher in a partnership to deliver top quality learning for all of our students. Their achievements are celebrated by the whole school community.

Our role as Governors is to support the school in every way possible to ensure that we build on our reputation as a great place to learn. We want every student to be the best that they can possibly be. That is what makes Walton High School so special."

Mr G Kearns
Chair of Governors



“ The school's stated aims are to ensure that pupils achieve well academically and develop the skills and attitudes to be happy and successful members of society. The school is successful in achieving these aims. ” (OFSTED)

Curriculum & Learning

We believe that students learn better if they are happy at school, in an atmosphere which is challenging and supportive.

Walton High School has a long tradition of quality in the education it provides. Students' attainment is outstanding. Our school calendar is enriched by visits and field trips. Students' progress is tracked throughout the year by teachers dedicated to their success. Their achievement is what drives the school and we are never satisfied.

Students follow a stimulating and balanced curriculum in Key Stage 3 that lays a foundation for future achievement.

At Key Stage 4 students choose to study the courses they find most rewarding and which will lead them on a pathway to success.

Post 16 our Sixth Form delivers an outstanding curriculum and wide choice of courses, providing the ideal stepping stone to further and higher education.

Homework helps students achieve their best. The demands of homework increase as students move up through the school, matching their growing skills as independent learners and confident young adults ready and prepared to take their next steps on a successful journey through life.



“ The curriculum provides a very wide range of choices for pupils that successfully engages them in their learning. ” (OFSTED)

Atmosphere, respect and student responsibilities

Walton High School has a year based pastoral system and all students are allocated a Head of Year when they arrive at the school. All students are placed in a House in Year 7 and remain in the same House throughout their school career.

The House System provides an opportunity for inter house competitions and events. The house names are all based on tracks, pathways or areas of Cannock Chase:

- Deercote – Green
- Hazelslade – Yellow
- Oldacre – Blue
- Kingsley – Red

Our rationale is a belief that students will gain a sense of belonging and that ‘family values’ can be endorsed. We want to provide students with a caring and supportive environment where each child is valued. Further to this is the belief that students need to be taught about respect, consideration and courtesy.

Walton High School has an established school council but the House system allows us to develop student leadership further by the appointments of prefects and peer mentors, giving our young people opportunity for student leadership. We aim to provide students with a wealth of opportunities to participate in extra-curricular

activities and contribute to House competitions and events throughout the school.

We respect and value our partnership with parents and the wider community.

We hope that students will build their self-esteem and confidence and gain the necessary qualifications to take the next step in their lives, providing them with a stimulating and enjoyable atmosphere where deep learning and effective teaching can flourish.



“Pastoral care and support are strengths of the school.” (OFSTED)



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We are able to run a broad range of extra-curricular activities and trips.

Equal opportunities and Special Educational Needs

We are proud of our strong and supportive pastoral system throughout the school. All students are placed in a mixed ability tutor group under the care of a tutor who is responsible for getting to know each student really well and for monitoring each student’s academic, personal and social development.

We encourage all students, within an atmosphere of tolerance and respect, to develop self esteem and self-awareness and to value life-long learning. We are an inclusive school, valuing and accepting every student as an individual. For those students who find the traditional

curriculum does not meet their needs, we provide alternative pathways for education which can be specific to an individual’s requirement. We also support a well resourced Special Educational Needs department with highly qualified specialist staff.

The safeguarding and well-being of our students is a top priority for us; we have a safeguarding policy in place which can be viewed on the website and our staff are regularly trained in child protection issues.

“ Pupils and parents value the school’s caring and supportive ethos.” (OFSTED)



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Sixth Form

We are very proud to welcome students to Walton's successful and expanding Sixth Form. We offer a broad and rich curriculum comprising both academic A Levels and a range of vocational courses. These subjects, taken in combination with supplementary extra options from our enrichment programme, results in each student having the opportunity to follow a uniquely tailored timetable of study designed to support and prepare them for their Post 18 pathways. Our aim is to maximise the opportunities for all learners by ensuring they have access to the broadest curriculum available and build on their prior attainment.

We know from experience that students achieve most effectively when they are well advised, supported and part of a well-focussed environment conducive to study. Our dedicated team of Director of Sixth Form, two Heads of Year and our Sixth Form Administrator are all based in our Sixth Form Centre, on hand to advise at all times. In addition, our Sixth Form Tutor Team and teaching staff are invested in ensuring academic success and pastoral well-being throughout students' time with us.

The Sixth Form Centre is a space intended to support Sixth Form study. With free WiFi, computer and quiet study rooms as well as the independently run café, it offers students the opportunity for studying and socialising in an environment specifically designed and intended to meet their needs.



Our sixth formers complement their studies with a wide range of stimulating extras such as the Arts Award, STEM club, Core Maths, Youth Parliament, ESB (English Speaking Board), lower school support and community volunteering. They have a week dedicated to pursuing meaningful work experience, again with their future career paths in mind and a Festival of Futures event including a UCAS trip.

We also offer the AQA Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), an independent research project which carries UCAS points and is delivered across two years. Curriculum time is given to students wishing to complete this qualification. Many have told us just how valuable they have found this, particularly in terms of university and job interviews, given that it demonstrated their interest in a specific area.

As the senior students in the school, sixth formers are encouraged to take on wider responsibilities as they are aspirational role models for our younger students. As such, our students have the opportunity to become mentors and ambassadors, prefects, or club leaders. Within the Sixth Form, we have a joint Year 12 and 13 committee which organises events from fundraising to social functions and which provides a crucial voice for the student body. We look forward to welcoming students to the Sixth Form and believe their time with us will be a rewarding one in every aspect.

“The Sixth Form has many strengths. Teaching is strong and students make good progress in all subjects as a result.” (OFSTED)



Home/School Communication and the Wider Community

Walton High School is very proud of our wide and well provisioned curriculum, where we offer a broad scope of subjects at GCSE and A-Level. We have strong links with our feeder schools, partnerships with our wider community and effective communication between school and home.

Our school website is regularly updated with information and resources for parents and carers to support their child's life at Walton. All parents and carers will have access to our Parent App; iSAMS and ClassCharts which give real time data on behaviour, praise, attendance, homework and reports. As well as an annual report and Parents' Evening, shorter progress reports will be communicated home each term to report target grades, estimated grades and how children are responding in lessons.

Parents are invited to "Parent Forums" on key issues, as well as having the opportunity to meet and chat with senior staff in a more informal setting.

In addition, parents play a key role as part of our Governing Body, evaluating and developing all aspects of home/school communication.



WALTON HIGH SCHOOL





“Strong leadership of safeguarding ensures that all staff understand that keeping pupils safe is their top priority.” (OFSTED)



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Chair of Governors: Mr G Kearns



OFSTED:

“Because pupils like and trust their teachers, they are confident in answering questions and attempting difficult tasks.”

“Pupils behave well in lessons. They are keen and often enthusiastic, with strong attitudes to learning.”

Our students say:

“We feel safe in school.”

“The best thing about our school is the quality of teaching.”

“We really enjoy the opportunities to get involved in trips, sports and activities.”

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