



The Crossley Heath School **PROSPECTUS 2020**





WELCOME TO CROSSLEY HEATH

It is a privilege to be the Head Teacher of this wonderful school which nurtures our young people to become independent, well-rounded individuals who want to make a difference in the world.

We want to inspire each of our students to flourish as an individual, to be curious, to be resilient and to love learning. We aspire for them to grow into articulate, independent future citizens and to become the leaders of tomorrow.

We have a strong vision for the school rooted in our core values: Respect, Self-belief, Aspiration, Challenge, Purpose and Responsibility. At our heart, we endeavour to be a genuinely warm, inclusive and vibrant community, to offer outstanding pastoral care and to secure the well-being of everyone. It is important to us that our school is a place of momentum, building on our excellent provision to move forward, grow and develop at all times.

Our students share our high aspirations for their futures and are challenged and supported by our dedicated teaching and support staff to achieve their ambitions.

We embrace and celebrate our wide ethnic and geographical diversity, striving to ensure that each child feels valued and participates actively in our school community.

Our thriving non-selective sixth form is intrinsic to the school and its students contribute much to the vibrancy of school life.

Our sixth form community is drawn from students who have studied GCSEs at many schools, including Crossley Heath.



We have a long and rich history as a school dating back to 1585 when the original Heath Grammar School was established. The current school building dates to 1861 when the Crossley brothers founded an 'Orphan Home and School for Boys and Girls', later renamed 'Crossley and Porter School'. We are very proud of our incredible Victorian building which, supplemented by modern additions, provides a unique and interesting learning environment.

I do hope this prospectus gives you a wealth of information about our rich and vibrant life at Crossley Heath. If you have any questions or would like more information about us, please get in touch.

Lynnette Cassidy MBA, Headteacher

OUTSTANDING RESULTS

Crossley Heath is a very successful school with extremely high aspirations for every single student. Our students achieve a very high proportion of top grades at GCSE and A level. We regularly feature in The Times list of the top 150 schools in the country and in The Times top 5 in the North of England region. Our success has also been recognised by the national SSAT Award for high educational outcomes at KS4 in 2018 and 2019. Information about our examination results is available on our website.

As much as we value our tradition, we embrace innovative teaching and learning and we are dedicated to providing the very best quality of teaching, adopting new and beneficial technologies. Our teachers are highly qualified specialists, passionate about their subjects. Teachers work hard to ensure that lessons are effective and that students understand what they need to do to achieve their targets. Positive relationships between staff and students contribute to the students' learning.

Academic progress is monitored closely to ensure that all students are making excellent progress in their learning.

Our broad and rich curriculum is designed to stimulate and challenge our students while preparing them for a successful and independent life in a dynamic world. There is a strong focus on traditional subjects which challenge the intellect and enable talents to flourish. In the lower school all students study a full range of subjects and currently make their GCSE choices before they enter Year 9 (subject to review).

The teachers at school are really helpful and are willing to talk with you whenever you want.

Student



My time so far at Crossley Heath has taught me to believe in myself and once I've done that I can do anything I set my mind to.

Student

At Key Stage 4 students study Mathematics, English Language and English Literature, three sciences, a Modern Foreign Language (French, German or Mandarin Chinese) and a humanities subject (Geography, History or Religious Studies) together with additional GCSE options subjects. Crossley Heath is proud to be the only school in the locality which offers the prestigious Mandarin Excellence Programme from Year 7.

In the sixth form, a wide range of A level courses is available together with an extensive enrichment programme.

The care, guidance and support of students is of paramount importance to us. We work closely with parents to develop a genuine partnership which makes a substantial difference to progress and achievement. This partnership starts early during the transition stage from primary to secondary school. We recognize that it can be a big step up from a relatively small primary school to a secondary school and we work hard to help remove some of that anxiety with an effective transition programme. Parents regularly compliment us on how quickly their children settle into the school and find new friends. Carefully created form groups help to ensure that our new students settle into school smoothly and facilitate the development of new, durable friendships. Each student has a form tutor who provides support and monitors each child's achievement and well-being. Relationships between students and staff are very strong.

A STRONG FAMILY ETHOS



Each student is also welcomed into one of our Houses – Kings, Queens, Porter or Savile. The Houses, led by our sixth form House Captains, comprise members from across all year groups and staff. The House system provides further opportunities for making friends across the school. It provides challenge and excitement throughout the year in the form of competitions including sports, drama, music, reading, debating and quizzes. Students often comment that House activities are one of the highlights of their time at the school.

We care very much for the well-being and health of each of our students. Our SEN, Pastoral and Well-being

teams are able to offer effective and compassionate support tailored to the needs of our students. The whole team adopt a holistic approach to the welfare of our young people, including their mental health. Our Student Support and Family Liaison Assistant works with vulnerable children and their families to ensure they receive support and help to overcome barriers to enable students to achieve to their full potential. Our well-qualified Student Healthcare Assistant provides excellent care for students with first aid and individual medical health needs as well as improving health and well-being education and mental health first aid for all our young people. Our parents and students tell us that the school offers a safe and happy environment in which to learn.



When you get here everyone is so friendly and nice and always willing to help. It may look like a big building but it's really easy to find your way around.

Student



DEVELOPING GOOD CITIZENS

A culture of respect for each other and a positive approach to diversity and inclusion is embedded in everything we do. Our school community is increasingly diverse and we embrace and celebrate this diversity. We promote the values of personal responsibility, integrity, tolerance, aspiration and self-belief. Our strong Behaviour for Learning policy ensures that students engage with their learning, demonstrate respect for each other and develop behaviours that support our community ethos. Through a wide range of activities our students are taught how to be caring and supportive of each other which leads to a happier school community.

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importance we place on working together to support others.

Democratic voice is important to us and we are proud that a Crossley Heath student was elected as Calderdale Youth Member of Parliament from 2019-20. We have run mock elections this year to reflect what has been happening in the political landscape of the country. The Student Council represents students from all year groups and meets regularly to discuss issues chosen by the students. Mrs Cassidy also hosts regular informal meetings with students. The Votes for School initiative enables students to regularly enter into debate and learn

This sense of purpose to be a good citizen is outward facing too and our students contribute to the local community in a variety of ways through volunteering, enrichment activities outside of school and fundraising. Students enjoy supporting charities locally, nationally and internationally and successfully raised over £10,000 last year through various activities. Staff are equally active in fundraising activities underlying the

more about topical issues affecting young people.

We are committed to ensuring that students are happy, well balanced young people with a moral sense of responsibility towards others as well as to the local and wider community. We want them to leave Crossley Heath feeling positive about themselves with a sense of direction and purpose and a commitment to improving the lives of others.



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The school is a great place to come. Everyone is friendly and kind and caring, the lessons are fun but it can be hard work too. You make friends really easily if you get involved with extra-curricular clubs.

Student

BROADENING HORIZONS

We offer many opportunities for students to broaden their experience beyond the formal curriculum with a vast array of extracurricular activities. Many of these experiences stay with young people for a lifetime. These include visits to the battlefields of Belgium, studying volcanos and glaciers in Iceland, taking part in German exchange visits and the Duke of Edinburgh and National Citizenship programmes.

Many more local visits take place to enhance the curriculum, to develop

independence and personal growth, and to encourage the discovery of new talents.

Enrichment activities add a further vital dimension to the life of the school. Crossley Heath has a strong sporting heritage and encourages all students, of whatever ability or experience, to enjoy physical activities and team sports. These include cross-country, netball, cricket, rugby union, athletics, football, table-tennis, tennis and badminton.



We value the importance of music for young people and our aim is that all students will participate in musical activity, including learning to play an instrument. A range of individual instrumental tuition is available. Students have thoroughly enjoyed the music tours abroad and the school productions and concerts. Students in Year 7 take part in singing and are strongly encouraged to sing in school choirs throughout their time with us.

Crossley Heath students are confident people who are ready to become young leaders. Students have opportunities to develop their leadership skills not only in the classroom but by being encouraged to participate fully with an active role in school life. The Head Boy and Head Girl help staff to run the school smoothly and there are many other high profile positions of responsibility within school which add much value to the effectiveness of the school such as School Officials, Charity Representatives, House Officials, Student Voice Co-ordinators and Sports Leaders.

We feel truly honoured to have been elected into such a prestigious position, acting as positive role models for younger students and maintaining the school's excellent reputation and

traditions. Crossley Heath has given us so much over the years, developing relationships and creating memories we will cherish forever.

Zara Ramzan & Fabrizio DeVita
Head Girl / Head Boy 2019-20

PREPARING FOR...

Our highly effective programme for Careers, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) develops the key employability skills that our students will need to function successfully in their chosen career path. We are proud to meet all eight of the Gatsby Benchmarks and to have retained the nationally accredited Quality in Careers Standard which recognises the very high standard of guidance available for our students and the breadth and inclusivity of our effective programme.

A comprehensive programme of events, activities, guest speakers, visiting employers and visits to industry enables students to understand the vast range of career sectors and pathways that are open to them in the UK and beyond.



...FUTURE SUCCESS

Developing Skills for Life

At Crossley Heath we believe in striking a balance between academic work and the leadership, teamwork and other important life skills that are so crucial for young people to develop before they leave school. Students are encouraged to develop these skills not only in the classroom but by participating actively in school life.

We develop a strong ethos of self-belief, hard work and resilience, expecting students to become independent learners and thinkers. We advocate a Growth Mind-set approach which encourages students (and their families!) to value effort, perseverance and practice and to view challenges and failures as opportunities to develop learning and skills.

I have been at Crossley Heath for almost 9 months. Every aspect has been great and most of all it has taught me to take courage and talk to people without being afraid.

Student

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Thank you for doing such a fantastic job. You have inspired my daughter's desire to learn and achieve to the best of her ability.

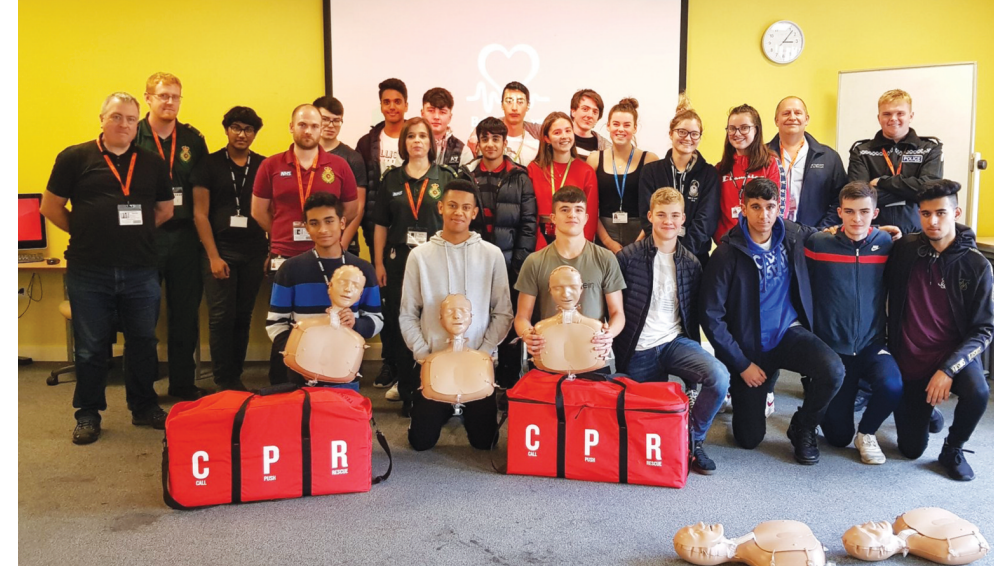
Parent

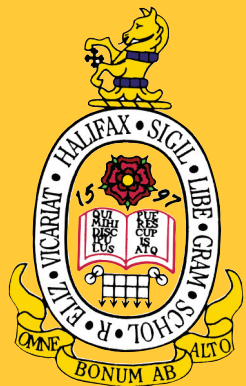
Success at SIXTH FORM & BEYOND

We expect that students joining us in Year 7 will stay with us for seven years, joining our sixth form community. We also welcome into our sixth form many new students from schools across a wide geographical area. Our highly successful Post 16 provision offers academic excellence and a wealth of opportunities, providing a balance of traditional and modern subjects and an extensive enrichment programme. Students are treated as adults with guidance and support from our experienced staff team always on hand. A significant proportion of our students go on to prestigious

universities, including Oxford and Cambridge and Russell Group universities. Whilst the majority of students do choose to go on to university, we actively support alternative pathways for students to explore, including the increasingly popular higher level apprenticeships.

Much more detailed information about our school, policies and procedures, exam results and admissions criteria can be found on our school website. Please do get in contact if we can be of further assistance.





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