



The Crossley Heath School **PROSPECTUS 2022**



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.

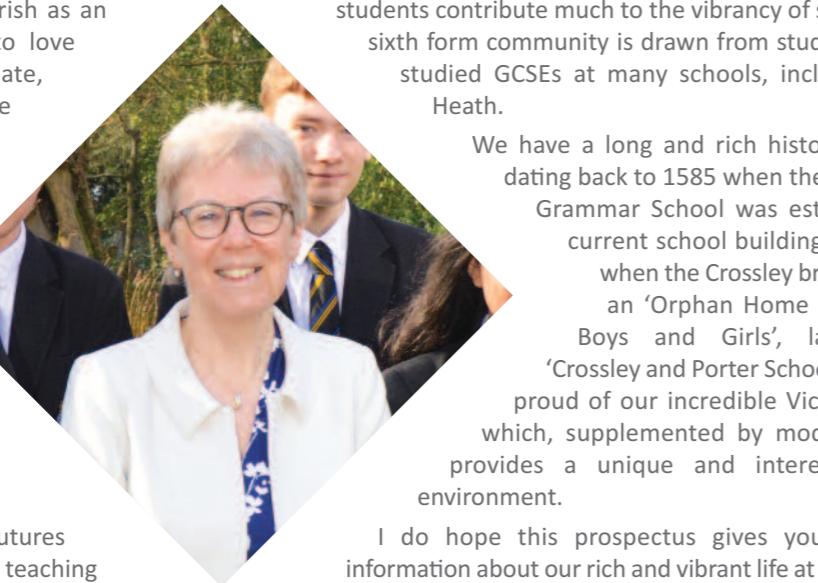
We want to inspire each of our students to flourish as an individual, to be curious, to be resilient and to love learning. We aspire for them to grow into articulate, independent future citizens and to become the leaders of tomorrow.

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

Respect ~ Responsibility ~ Self-Belief ~ Purpose ~ Challenge ~ Aspiration



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND AMBITION

Crossley Heath is committed to the highest of academic standards whilst providing an atmosphere of intellectual challenge to enable every single student to flourish. Our students consistently achieve a 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 we are pleased to have been placed in the top 5 best secondary schools in the North of England by the Sunday Times Parent Power report again this year. Further information about our examination results is available on our website.

We are committed to making your child's education a fulfilling, exciting and rewarding experience. Through a stimulating, challenging curriculum we will inspire your child to be intellectually curious, interested in the community and the world in which they live and keen to embrace knowledge at every opportunity. There is a strong focus on traditional subjects which challenges the intellect and enables talents to flourish. In the lower school all students study a

full range of subjects and make their GCSE choices before the end of Key Stage 3 during Year 9. 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 option subjects. Crossley Heath is proud to be the only school in the locality which offers the prestigious Mandarin Excellence Programme from Year 7. All students have weekly Personal Development lessons which equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary to navigate modern day society.

"This school really cares for the individual students."

Year 7 parent



The school has done really well to help my son settle in Year 7 and he always sounds very positive about his experience in school.

Year 7 parent

Our teachers are highly qualified specialists who are passionate about their subjects. Academic progress is monitored closely to ensure that all students make excellent progress in their learning. Positive relationships between staff and students also support students' learning. Crossley Heath is committed to being flexible to the changing global landscape and embraces developing technologies. We have a blended learning strategy allowing us to move quickly to learning online if required.

When you visit Crossley Heath you will be struck by the warm, family atmosphere that characterises life at this school. The care, guidance and support of students is of paramount importance to us. Choosing the right secondary school for a child is one of the most important decisions that a parent or carer will make. By building strong partnerships with parents and carers we can work together to ensure that young people succeed. 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 extensive transition programme. Carefully composed 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 wellbeing. In a recent survey, 96% of our Year 7 parents said that their child had settled well into school.

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, chess and quizzes. Students often comment that House activities are one of the highlights of their time at school.

A STRONG FAMILY ETHOS



A Place of Wellbeing

We care very much for the wellbeing and health of each of our students. We know that all our students have enormous potential and we are committed to providing an environment in which every student can flourish, irrespective of the challenges they may face. We appreciate that young people today encounter a variety of pressures from dealing with relationships, social media or exam pressures and these can affect health and wellbeing. We place mental and emotional wellbeing at the very heart of our pastoral care.

Our SEN, Pastoral and Wellbeing teams are able to offer effective and compassionate support tailored to the needs of our students. Our Student Healthcare Assistant provides excellent care for students with first aid and individual medical health needs. Our Pastoral leaders work with vulnerable children and their families to ensure they receive support and help to overcome barriers to enable them to achieve to their full potential. The SEN, Pastoral and Wellbeing teams adopt a holistic approach to the welfare of our young people, including the learning, physical and emotional needs of students. Our parents and students tell us that the school offers a safe and happy environment in which to learn.



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 in a variety of ways from activities within the curriculum to assemblies, extracurricular and special celebration days such as an annual Diversity Day, themed food days and fundraising charity events. We promote the values

A PLACE OF STRONG VALUES



Our values are based upon the belief that we are all deserving of respect. We take our wider responsibilities to the community to heart and our students support and contribute to the local community in a variety of ways through volunteering, enrichment activities outside of school and fundraising. Each year we raise many thousands of pounds for charities which students have chosen – local, national and global.

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. Our aim is to educate students with the ‘cultural capital’ that they need to become well-rounded individuals. Our students are encouraged to see their value and the value of others and to become responsible citizens who contribute to society.

“Overall very impressed with the school and pleased that my child is happy and settled. Full of praise for this great school.”

Year 7 parents

EDUCATING THE WHOLE CHILD

We believe that every student should have the opportunity to be extraordinary through developing academic, physical and emotional confidence. This means having the courage to take risks and learn from their mistakes. This philosophy also extends outside of the classroom with a wealth of activities for students to enjoy which will broaden their experiences. Many of these experiences stay with our young

people for a lifetime. These include visits to the battlefields of Belgium, studying volcanos and glaciers in Iceland, field trips to support Biology, taking part in 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.



“My child is doing really well academically and has found her feet more socially in the last couple of years too.”

Year 10 parents

DEVELOPING SKILLS FOR LIFE

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 hold the 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.



"This school is fantastic. It has boosted the confidence and school experience of my children."

Year 9 parent

We understand that many of the attributes our students will need in later life – determination, resilience, teamwork and good communication skills – will be learnt both in and outside of the classroom. At Crossley Heath we believe in striking a balance between academic work and developing these important life skills that are so crucial for young people.

Students are encouraged to develop these skills not only in the classroom but through the ample opportunities that exist for participating actively in school life.

Our Student Leadership Programme

helps to provide all students with

opportunities to develop and practice leadership skills that prepare them

well for future success and life beyond school. Through student voice and student action we can harness the full potential of our fabulously diverse student body and build the strongest sense of togetherness between students, staff, governors, parents/carers and our local community partners.

Along with the Head Boy and Head Girl, student leaders across all year groups work together in action groups to drive positive change in a number of important areas including Inclusion, Diversity and Community Cohesion, Mental Health and Wellbeing, Environment and Sustainability, Charity and Fundraising and House Events Leadership.

“The SEN team have been wonderful. All my concerns have been followed up and I feel the school itself is very supportive of my child.”

Year 12 parent

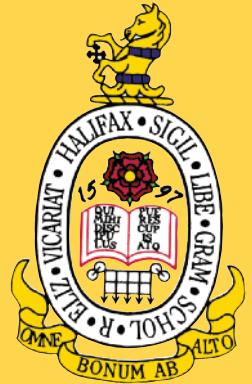
Progression to SIXTH FORM & BEYOND

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 provision in the Sixth Form offers academic excellence, exceptional pastoral care and a wealth of opportunities, not only within the curriculum but also from an extensive enrichment programme. A significant proportion of our students go on to prestigious universities, including Oxford and Cambridge and Russell Group universities. We are able to offer personalised support and advice on UCAS applications and student finance options. We are also extremely proud of

our 100% success rate in students gaining entry to the university of their choice. However, 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 and degree level apprenticeships which have provided a viable and equally successful alternative route for some of our students.

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 any further assistance.





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www.crossleyheath.org.uk

