

Prospectus 2023



The Crossley
Heath School

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.



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



ASPIRATION AND CHALLENGE

Crossley Heath expects high standards of achievement and we are very proud when our students regularly excel. Our students consistently achieve a host of top grades at GCSE, allowing the pursuit of their preferred A Level courses. We regularly feature in The Times list of the top 150 schools in the country and our students go on to secure places at prestigious universities, as well as positions in reputable and internationally renowned companies. 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. Our curriculum is designed to enable students to achieve academic excellence whilst also developing personal skills and strong core values for future happiness, success and learning. We provide a broad, balanced curriculum both traditional and forward thinking in content and delivery and underpinned by a strong academic ethos. 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 or German) and a humanities subject (Geography, History or Religious Studies) together with additional GCSE option subjects. Crossley Heath is delighted to be part of the prestigious Mandarin Excellence Programme from Year 7 and these students continue the study of Mandarin Chinese as part of the programme up to GCSE level. All students have weekly Personal Development lessons which equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary to navigate modern day society.

“My daughter has had a wonderful start and I have been delighted with every aspect of the school so far”.

Year 7 parent



“I have been impressed with the dedication of staff and the support provided to students”.

Year 7 parent

Our teachers are highly qualified specialists who are passionate about their subjects and ensure that students are challenged, inquisitive and questioning. Lessons are taught at pace and excellent use is made of technology to support learning. 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. By developing a strong ethos of hard work, students become independent learners, able to go out into the world of work with the skills, determination and resilience to succeed.

A STRONG FAMILY ETHOS

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. A specialist team work closely with year 7 students and parents to help make that important transition from primary to secondary school. 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 Place of wellbeing and Self-belief

We want your children, our students, to feel cared for, valued and supported to enjoy their learning and to achieve their potential. As such, we care very much for the wellbeing and health of each of them. A particular focus is our drive on ensuring positive mental health and wellbeing which can be difficult for some young people to navigate during adolescent years. Our growth mindset approach enables students to understand that although something cannot be achieved immediately, it should not become a barrier to success in the future with the appropriate attitude and application. The school's pastoral systems provide excellent care guidance and support.

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. 98% of our parents 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. All members of our community are encouraged to respect differences and challenge discrimination and inequality, including bullying. We actively encourage all our students to be kind and respectful in their interactions, both in and outside of the classroom. We focus heavily on high standards of behaviour and routines

are a key element of that. Students know with certainty what is expected and this leads to a calm, positive atmosphere and climate. We embrace and celebrate diversity in a variety of ways from activities within the curriculum to assemblies, extra curricula and special celebration days such as an annual Diversity Day, themed food days and fundraising charity events. We promote the values of respect, self-belief, purpose,

personal responsibility, challenge and aspiration. Our tutorial programme is an important part of our 'taught' education and supports the building of Crossley Heath Character Education instils an appreciation of how our values influence our actions and supports the development of good moral sense and practical wisdom. 97% of our parents believe that the school reflects and respects its diverse community.

RESPECT AND RESPONSIBILITY



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 – and the responses to many international events

such as the war in Ukraine and earthquakes in Turkey/Syria have been heart-warming. Our aim is to educate students with the 'cultural capital' that they need to become well-rounded individuals who will become responsible citizens. Our students are encouraged to see the values of others and to become responsible citizens who contribute to society.

“I have been really impressed since our son joined year 7, with the communication from school, how my son is supported, the friendships he has made, the relationships he has developed with staff.”

Year 7 parents



WIDER OPPORTUNITIES

We believe that every student should have the opportunity to be extraordinary, not only by developing academically, but through a whole range of experiences they gain during their time at Crossley Heath. 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, residential activity and reward trips and 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.



www.crossleyheath.org.uk

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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 and yoga, to name a few. We promote fitness and opportunity for all and we have well-equipped facilities to support these activities. Your child will be encouraged to find their niche - whatever their interests and abilities are – there is something for everyone!

We value the importance of music for young people and our aim is that all students will participate in some musical activity, including learning to play an instrument. A range of individual instrumental tuition is available. Students have thoroughly enjoyed our music tours abroad and visits to concerts and theatres. In addition to the formal school activities such as the annual Prize Giving event, Students have the opportunity to showcase their skills and perform at many in-school events including assemblies, charity events and House competitions.

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

Year 9 parent

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE WITH PURPOSE

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.



“The teachers are really lovely people and hugely supportive of students. They seem to know individual pupils very well and they offer encouragement and tailored help along with humour and positivity”.

Year 10 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. 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

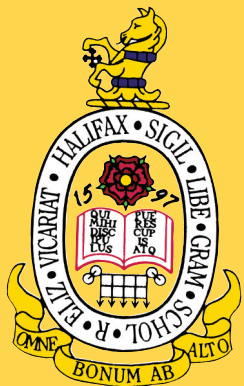
We expect that students joining us in Year 7 will stay with us for seven years, joining our sixth form community. We also welcome into our Sixth Form many new students from schools across a wide geographical area. Our provision in the Sixth Form offers academic excellence, exceptional pastoral care and 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.

We very much hold the view that our sixth formers are role models of our school as well as the leaders of our future who remember the school with fondness. Our developing alumni contacts help give advice and opportunities for our students to experience.

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



“The school served my eldest boy brilliantly, as reflected in his GCSE results. My daughter and younger son are both progressing nicely.”

Parent of three children at CHS