A warm welcome to Poynton High School

"A very warm welcome to Poynton High School"

Thank you for your interest in finding out more about our school. Our school is a truly amazing place because it is filled with such gifted, talented and inspiring young people. I know that I am extremely biased when it comes to our school community but I truly feel blessed to be the head teacher of all 1450 students and over 150 expert staff. Each one of our students is encouraged to "jump in with both feet" to school life. Whether that be through student leadership, academic progress, participation in the arts, sciences and humanities, or even by becoming a student ambassador. Every student is celebrated for getting involved in our learning community and their outcomes continue to be unrivalled.

Our school motto is INSPIRE ACHIEVE CELEBRATE and each and every day I am inspired by the talents, the achievements and the sheer brilliance of our young people. Poynton High is a unique school. Even though we are a large 11 – 18 community school, through our House and Pastoral systems we are able to deliver a family, community focussed approach where every student is known, challenged and celebrated, in all that they do.

Here at Poynton High School we believe in providing the very best opportunities for our students. Our curriculum is wide and engaging, the extra-curricular opportunities are extensive and the support networks we have available to support our students through their teenage years are unparalleled.

Becoming a member of our “Poynton Family” is the start of an exciting journey for us all. The three way relationship between our students, their families and our staff is at the heart of our continued success. I see it as a great privilege to serve as your head teacher and very much look forward to welcoming you into our school community. I hope this prospectus gives you a taste of our vibrant and successful learning community. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any more information or if you would like to visit us in action.

Mr David Waugh
Head Teacher, Poynton High School
“...I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your team for your dedication to securing the best possible outcomes for the children in your care. As my daughter finishes her first year at secondary school I can honestly say that I have been delighted with the transition, her progress and her academic and social development. From embracing new subjects to orientation around a bigger building, she has thrived.”
(Parent of a new student starting Year 7 September 2017)
The start of a journey...

The transition between primary school and Poynton High School is an important part of your journey. Our experienced and caring team regularly visit our feeder primary schools to ensure smooth transfer for students moving up from Year 6 to Year 7. We invite all of our prospective students to school to get to know their future teachers and support staff, get used to our very exciting learning facilities and to settle those nerves that often come with moving to a new school.

We start early in forming the “Poynton Family” through our Year 6 residential to Anglesey where we start to build our new students’ confidence, expand their friendships across all feeder school groups and allow them to get to know our transition support staff and some of their future teachers.

Where additional support is needed we provide this with our SEND Team. This will involve a number of visits to the High School, meetings between our learning support staff and primary school staff and also meetings with parents and carers, all to ensure we establish the best care package for your son or daughter.

“…teachers know their pupils well and plan work that challenges and engages”
(Ofsted December 2015)
“...the headteacher, senior and middle leaders and governors share high expectations and an unswerving commitment to ensure that every pupil achieves their goals, whatever their circumstances.” (Ofsted, December 2015)
...your journey to success

Our school provides a warm and caring, yet challenging and motivating, learning environment for all students throughout their time with us on their journey to success. In Year 7 students focus on balancing their wide ranging academic studies with the great number of extra-curricular opportunities available, allowing them to “jump in with both feet”. In Years 8 and 9 students will work towards achieving their ‘Cultural Passport’, an opportunity to demonstrate the wider knowledge and understanding needed in order to be successful in our ever changing world. Proving to future universities and employers just what a great undergraduate or employee they would make.

Alongside GCSEs, in Years 9, 10 and 11, students will also be supported in learning about personal finance, careers and enterprise opportunities and crucially, how to revise and prepare for external examinations effectively. Throughout their time with us, students will be challenged to achieve - academically and culturally, physically and spiritually - in whatever it is they set their heart on achieving. Here at Poynton High we will ensure that every single young person will be celebrated in that achievement, every step of the way.

Each student belongs to both a form group and a school House and will stay with the same form tutor throughout years 7 to 13. Their progress and welfare are also supported by their Director of Learning and a dedicated Student Welfare Officer. As a large school we are able to bring together a great number of support staff to help your child through their teenage years through our own Emotional Health and Wellbeing Centre, our state of the art medical room, access to CAMHS workers, first aid officers and intervention managers.

The majority of our students opt to continue their studies in our thriving and highly successful sixth form. Our students benefit from their own state of the art sixth form centre and develop the skills and knowledge needed for a lifetime of success. Each year our students progress on to a wide range of degree courses at some of the best universities, including Oxford and Cambridge. Others move into apprenticeships or employment in often very diverse fields.
“…we would just like to thank you and all your staff for teaching and supporting our daughter over the last 5 years. She has had excellent teachers and we have been very impressed with Poynton High and the standard of care and support she has received. Our daughter would not have wanted to be anywhere else and is very much looking forward to sixth form.”

(Parent of a student finishing Year 11,
Here at Poynton High School we are passionate in ensuring all students get involved in the wider life of school. We have high expectations of our students in their academic studies and we mirror that beyond the classroom. Every student will have access to a truly phenomenal amount of extra-curricular opportunities. All activities in school attract “House Points” where students compete together to gain points for their House in order to win the “House Cup” presented at the end of year whole school assembly.

Everyone is encouraged to develop new interests. To not only take part in their traditional sports, clubs and performances, but also to get involved in new opportunities. From being a member of the Student Leadership Group to competing in the House Dance competition, from being in the school rugby team to being in the Head Teacher’s very own triathlon club, from winning the house sunflower competition to being one of our hugely successful Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme students. We have an opportunity to ensure every student can jump in with both feet, and if we don’t have it yet, let us know and we soon will!

We encourage our students to widen their horizons with many trips and visits throughout the year, including our ski trip, individual subject trips and field courses, modern foreign language exchanges, Camps International trips and performing arts tours.

Poynton also has a great reputation for PE and sport and we regularly enjoy both team and individual success at district, county and national levels. Our large team of specialist PE staff, along with other qualified leaders, coach over 20 sports teams. With a sports hall, gymnasium, swimming pool, tennis courts, squash courts, outdoor gym and mile track and football and rugby pitches, Poynton High is well equipped for students to enjoy and build confidence through team sports and to develop their own fitness and wellbeing.

Our school also enjoys a purpose built dance studio, a hall theatre and drama studios. We run both the performance and technical (sound, lighting, and direction) elements of all performing arts and look forward to welcoming you to one of our many plays, concerts and dance events.
“...teachers know their pupils well. This allows them to use their subject expertise to question pupils very effectively to extend their learning and check understanding, knowledge and skill development”. (Ofsted December 2015)

“...the curriculum is carefully tailored to meet the needs of pupils and supports their good achievement. Through the wide enrichment activities, pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is effectively fostered”. (Ofsted December 2015)