

# A warm welcome to Poynton High School

Thank you for your interest in finding out more about our school. As you can imagine, I am VERY biased when it comes to Poynton High School and Performing Arts College, as I truly believe that our school is a great school, full of inspirational young people and exceptionally talented staff. As Head Teacher I really do feel blessed to have such a supportive, expert and engaged staff team around me to support each and every one of our young people.

We are a large 11 – 18 school serving the communities of Poynton, Disley, Adlington, Pott Shrigley and further afield out towards Macclesfield and Stockport. As a school we have served our community's learning needs since 1965 and have a long and established reputation for high academic standards as one of the highest achieving schools both in the North West and nationally.

Our school motto is INSPIRE ACHIEVE CELEBRATE and we apply that to every element of school life. Our role as a school is to ensure that we inspire every student to achieve the best they possibly can in everything they do, whether that be academic, sporting, cultural or spiritual and at the heart of our culture is a celebration of that achievement.

Through a wide and engaging curriculum, including Welfare Education, Drama, Music, Dance, PE and many forms of Performing Arts and Community programmes, we also develop our students' wider personal skills and help to equip them for a successful future in our changing world.

We are proud of the academic standards our students achieve, but equally proud of the way in which they grow up to be responsible, hardworking and healthy adults who contribute fully to their community.

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 parents and our staff is at the heart of our continued success and I very much look forward to welcoming you to Poynton High School and working with you as your son or daughter progresses through our school.

I hope that 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 an opportunity to visit us in action.



Mr David Waugh  
Head Teacher, Poynton High School



"...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)

Inspire

## 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 workers, get used to our very exciting learning facilities and to settle those nerves that often come with moving to a new school.

To support transition we have a residential course in North Wales, Activity Days and an opportunity to experience a high school day for all Year 6 students. We believe it is essential for students to feel welcome in September and comfortable in their new environment. Through this thorough transition process our newest students soon feel part of our Poynton Family.

Where additional support is needed we provide this with our SEN Team and Learning Support Team. Students who have abilities significantly ahead of their Year Group are formally identified on our Most Able register. By working together we can make sure that every student grows academically and as a confident, successful person in their own right.

"...may I take this opportunity to say what a fantastic induction process PHS have in place and that my son is extremely excited about starting Year 7. This makes the transition process a whole lot easier for parents too!!" (Parent of new student starting in Year 7; August 2016)





"...pastoral and welfare leadership is very strong. The school carefully monitors the impact of its actions on pupils' behaviour and well-being. Leaders have extensive links with other agencies and make well thought-out plans for pupils who require additional nurturing and care."  
(Ofsted December 2015)

# Achieve

Our school provides a warm and caring learning environment for all students throughout their time with us on their journey to success. A Poynton student walks through the doors of our school and experiences a place with the highest standards and expectations. Our skilled and passionate teaching staff see it as their job to get the best from each and every student. We offer a combination of academic excellence and the practical and emotional skills needed to succeed in a competitive world.

Each student belongs to both a Form Group and a School House and will stay with the same form tutor throughout years 7 – 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 with access to our own Emotional Health & Wellbeing Centre, CAMHS workers, First Aid Officer, Intervention Managers and Welfare Officers. Parental Profile Events, Annual Reports, Interim Reports and Parents' Meetings are just some of the ways we involve parents and carers with their child's progress.

The vast majority of our students opt to continue their education in our thriving and highly successful Sixth Form. Our students benefit from a state of the art building 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. Our Careers Education and Guidance Team offer advice and support to enable students to make effective decisions about their future lives.

"...teachers know their pupils well and plan work that challenges and engages." Ofsted December 2015





“...the curriculum and enrichment opportunities lead to very effective personal, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development for pupils”  
(Ofsted December 2015)

Celebrate

## Beyond the classroom

At Poynton High School we make sure that every day is a real learning experience but we also ensure education is not limited to the classroom.

With a wealth of extra-curricular activities and trips we allow students to learn new skills and develop new interests. Everyone is encouraged to develop their confidence through a wide range of activities and clubs, such as the Student Council, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, the Student Leadership Ladder, charitable fundraising and a myriad of clubs from cookery to chess, science to cross country...we even have our own student Water Polo Club.

We encourage students to widen their horizons with many trips and visits through the year, including an annual ski trip, individual subject trips and field trips both here in the UK and overseas. These include Performing Arts trips to places such as New York and our Modern Foreign Language exchanges to France, Germany and Spain.

Poynton also has a great reputation for PE and sport and we regularly enjoy both team and individual success at District, County and National level. Our large team of specialist PE staff, along with other qualified staff, coach over 20 sports teams. With a sports hall, gymnasium, swimming pool, squash courts, tennis courts, netball courts and football and rugby pitches, Poynton High School is well equipped for students to enjoy and build confidence through team sports and to develop their own individual fitness and wellbeing.

Our school also enjoys a purpose built dance studio, a hall theatre and drama studios. We work hard to give our students an opportunity to discover and develop their creative talents in the Performing Arts. We have numerous concerts and clubs throughout the year and all students are offered the chance to receive tuition in a wide variety of musical instruments.





"...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."

"...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)

EXCEL