

# Your future awaits

Achieving Success  
Valuing Others

2024 Prospectus

HELSEBY

High School



Achieving Success  
Valuing Others

# Your future starts here

Thank you for your interest in Helsby High School.



Martin Hill - **Head Teacher**

For many, the first impressions of our school will be the grandeur of a very traditional building with a rich history. Behind the frontage though lies a modern 21st century learning environment providing high-quality teaching and learning and student support for the young people of Frodsham, Helsby and the surrounding area.

Built in the 1930s and having celebrated its 70th birthday in 2019, the former 'Runcorn County Grammar School' is today a large, over-subscribed 11-18 comprehensive school, serving over 1,350 students from both north Cheshire and Halton - a number which includes over 250 students in its large and vibrant Sixth Form.

Visitors comment on the calm atmosphere in the school and we are proud of the mature behaviour and enthusiastic approach to learning of our students. Supported by the expertise of experienced, dedicated teaching staff they make excellent progress. 2019 A-Level results were the highest of any state Sixth Form in Cheshire West and Chester, showing just how well the students were prepared for the future which awaited them after their 7 years at the school.

Whether you are a Year 6 student in one of our partner primary schools, with whom we have excellent relationships, a teacher interested in joining our talented workforce or just a casual visitor to our website, I hope this prospectus gives you a sense of the opportunities available at our school.

# Achieving Success

## Valuing Others

valu

These are the two distinctive aims which underpin the entire work of our school



### Achieving Success

This means much more to us than just academic success. Our students take full advantage of opportunities to achieve success in a wide range of enrichment opportunities, as well as embracing an extensive programme of educational visits both locally and abroad.



### Valuing Others

This is demonstrated through the many ways in which our students help each other and support the members of our local community, whom we are proud to serve. Our community work is a distinctive feature of our school; our students value others and enjoy doing so.

success



# Academic excellence

## Personal success

Year 11 2023

**75+%**

achieved grade 4 or  
above in English  
and in Maths

**90+%**

achieved 9 or more  
GCSE or equivalent  
qualifications

Sixth Form 2019

**50%**

of grades were A\*- B

**80%**

of students achieved  
their first choice of  
destination

# The brightest of futures

“

I joined Helsby from a primary school that was out of the catchment area and no one else from my old school came with me to Helsby. Helsby made me feel instantly at home. I even had a special day in school just for me and the other students who were coming from out of catchment. It meant that I didn't feel alone and I made lots of new friends, I was particularly impressed by the kind and fair teachers.

”

Ruby

“

I have enjoyed meeting new people and exploring all the different subjects, my teachers always help me to succeed. I feel really safe and it didn't take a long time to settle in.

”

Macy

“

The best thing about coming to Helsby High was meeting my form and making new friends. At Helsby I feel older and more mature.

”

Dan

# Inspirational Learning

**Our students enjoy learning and our teachers enjoy teaching.**

Our teachers are specialists in the subject they teach and all lessons have a set of common expectations, which establish an excellent climate for learning. Subjects are taught in specialist rooms with resources and technology which meet the specific teaching and learning needs of that subject.

Positive and respectful working relationships between staff and students are fundamental to successful teaching and learning and high levels of trust ensure interactivity, engagement and challenge, which encourage students to demonstrate enjoyment, progress and creativity.

The close relationship with partner primary schools and the ongoing transition work in teaching and learning has been a very positive development and continues to help us to plan an effective 5-18 curriculum.



“

**Helsby High School is a welcoming school. Pupils value the friendships that they forge with their classmates. Pupils feel happy and enjoy their learning.**

”

The Ofsted logo, featuring the word 'Ofsted' in a dark blue font with three stylized human figures above the 'f'.

inspire

# Outstanding Opportunities



“ Pupils appreciate the very wide range of extra-curricular activities which staff provide for them, including residential visits in this country and abroad. ”

  
Ofsted





# Sixth Form Opportunities



Our Sixth Form offers over 250 students a wide range of academic opportunities, with a varied programme of leadership and enrichment activities. We offer a comprehensive programme of support from our experienced team of tutors and expert subject teachers. Students of all abilities achieve excellent results across our broad provision of 30 courses in A-levels and in BTEC/Level 3 qualifications.

We are proud that our individualised study programmes, advice and guidance help students to access a wide range of university, apprenticeship and employment opportunities on leaving us at the end of Year 13. Our students leave us not only with excellent academic results, but also as well rounded young people, equipped with the skills to succeed in an ever changing world.

## 2019 exam results:

**98% pass rate at A-level**

**27% of all entries at A\* or A**

**53% of entries at A\*-B**

**100 pass rate for BTEC qualifications**

**An average grade of 'B-', the highest grade achieved by any state school Sixth Form in Cheshire West and Chester.**



LOUNGE

“

Students in the sixth form have access to a range of qualifications that suit their interests.

”



# Transition and Admissions



If you would like to join us in Year 7 please apply via the Cheshire West and Chester website.

[Click here to view the admissions page](#)

Please note the 31st October deadline

“ Leaders have crafted a broad and ambitious curriculum for all pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. ”

  
Ofsted

# Transi

Once you have been offered, and accepted, a place at Helsby High School in March of the year following your application, you will receive a series of welcome packs with lots of useful information to prepare your child for their start to high school.

Your child will meet our Transition Lead from the comfort of their Primary School classroom and will be visited by some of our Year 7 students who will be able to talk about the move to high school and answer any questions. The Year 7 students are usually alumni of that particular primary school and may well be a familiar face from the playground a year earlier.

Our much anticipated Transition Evenings take place in July, when parents and students come in to school to familiarise themselves with staff who will support them during their time at Helsby High School: their Progress and Pastoral Leader; Student Support Co-ordinator and Form Tutor, along with Form Group peers.

They will also have the opportunity to become familiar with some of the routines of the school like the all-important 'smart card' and how to put money on for lunch! Our Transition days follow later that week when your child will spend time getting to know their Form Tutor and the other members of their form. They will also attend some 'taster' lessons to get a better idea of what it is like in the high school classroom.

Other transition events follow as your child moves through the school; for example the Y7 Information Evening and Options Evening.

Some young people join Helsby High School part way through an academic year through the in-year transfer process. Applications again come via the admissions pages of the Cheshire West and Chester website. In these circumstances, a bespoke transition process is planned by the relevant members of the Pastoral Team.

# Admissio

# Your future starts here

Should you wish to contact Helsby High School,  
please use the address or contact details below.

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