



Ormskirk School

Thank you for your interest in Ormskirk School.

Ormskirk School was formed in September 2001. The school provides enough places for all the pupils living in the catchment area (its admission number is 250). It moved into a brand new school building in September 2004.

There has been huge investment in ICT in the school allowing for projectors in every classroom, interactive whiteboards in every suite, all staff having their own laptop and considerable bookable ICT space. From September 2013, with parents' support, we introduced tablet computers for all students. E-learning is viewed as an important part of the school's drive for educational excellence.

The school serves the market town of Ormskirk and its neighbour Aughton, together with the surrounding rural parishes. The catchment area is mixed, with considerable numbers of advantaged children but some pockets of deprivation. The proportion of children receiving free school meals, at about 12%, remains lower than the national average, but has doubled in the last five years. Approximately 20% of pupils have received free school meals at any time during the last six years. Latterly the school has attracted increasing numbers of students from beyond its delineated priority area, largely from the neighbouring town of Skelmersdale. The school is consistently over-subscribed in parental first choices.

The main employers in Ormskirk are the hospital and Edge Hill University. Many parents travel to Manchester, Preston or Liverpool to work, and some are very affluent. In general, parents are supportive of the school. The school has a very active parental consultation group which meets once each term to review areas of the school's work. Attendance at subject consultation evenings is very high, and latterly has been above 90%. The school's own surveys, together with other evidence, indicate that parental views of the school have improved significantly in the last few years.

Student outcomes are secure and the school's examination results are set out on the school's website. From 2011-2017 the average 5 GCSEs at A*-C equivalency, including English and Maths, has been consistent at around 68% but our students should be making greater progress than this, which is the main target for our school improvement plan. In particular, we need to improve the progress being made by disadvantaged students.

Sixth Form results are good and in 2017 the Sixth Form College secured its best ever results, with an average grade of B- and 54% of results at A*/B grades. Our vocational provision is excellent, with 75% of BTEC students securing Distinction* in 2017.

The Ofsted inspection of February 2017 judged the school to require improvement. As a school community, we have: above average results, good pastoral systems and place positive emphasis on pupils' personal development and well-being, but we don't yet have consistently high quality practice which has led to pupils not making the progress they are capable of. We are determined to address this and are looking for inspirational colleagues to join our team and build on our strengths so that we can become the school we aspire to be.

The school has lower than average numbers of students on the SEN register. Slightly more than 13% of the school population are identified as requiring school support. Our Learning Support provision is of the highest quality.

Data shows the pupils entering the school to be of slightly above average prior attainment though in-line with the change in pupils' admission patterns, this difference is closing in the younger school year groups.

Staff are valued and supported at Ormskirk School. We are proactive and positive as a community. For example, since the Ofsted in February 2017, we have: created a Respect Centre, developed an Opportunity Centre, begun the refurbishment of the Sixth Form College, appointed a team of Lead Teachers, established an ICE teaching and learning Hub, revised senior leadership roles, launched a Respect Charter, created a new system of target-setting, tracking and intervention, appointed a Data Manager and purchased the SISRA data system ... this list could go on. Ormskirk School is a vibrant, dynamic and rewarding place to work!

Ofsted advised that our pupils are 'well cared for through high quality pastoral support'; they 'behave well' and benefit from 'some teaching in the school which is inspirational and intellectually challenging'. I sincerely hope that you feel able to join us as we create a school where all of our teaching inspires the amazing students in our care. We are focused on inspiring, challenging and engaging (ICE) teaching and learning that allows our students to fulfil their potential. If this is what you believe in, we look forward to hearing from you.



Mr M Kerridge
Headteacher

SCIENCE INFORMATION

The present school's Science faculty has some 14 teachers and 14 laboratories. The faculty is led by Joint Heads of Faculty who are also Head of Physics and Chemistry, assisted by Head of Biology and Head of Key Stage 3 Science.

At Key Stage 3, the faculty uses its own Scheme of Learning. This scheme is complemented by our own KS3 Scheme of Work which is a set of electronic resources collaboratively prepared by all our faculty members.

Students are set by ability in Year 7 and a combination of two top sets followed by mixed ability in Years 8-11. At Key Stage 4 students study the AQA Trilogy Science Double award or opt for separate Sciences.

The faculty and the school set great store by target setting on the basis of prior attainment. There is a well-developed system of computerised assessment which allows the identification of those pupils who are not meeting expectations as well as the many who are exceeding them. This is a valuable tool for adjusting setting and setting targets at an individual level.

The school follows the AQA specification for A-level Physics, Chemistry and Biology. The Science subjects have been very popular in the recent past, with a significant uptake at A Level annually. We also offer AQA Applied Science Level 3 as an option.

Information on the post

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and inspirational teacher of science. The successful applicant will be expected to make a positive contribution to the department. In return we offer a rewarding environment, high profile involvement in the life of the school, on-going professional development and the opportunity of working in a thriving and ever developing department.

If you are interested in this post, please return your completed application form by noon on Monday 25th June to Mrs J Gee at jg@ormskirk.lancs.sch.uk. It would be helpful if candidates who have not heard by Monday 2nd July assume that their application has been unsuccessful on this occasion.



Mr M Kerridge
Headteacher

*Ormskirk School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.
The school will take all necessary steps to check the suitability of prospective employees, an enhanced DBS will be sought and background checks will be made.
Ormskirk School is an equal opportunities employer.*