**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.

Progress has been made in outcomes for students. In 2008 50% of the Year 11 cohort gained 5A\*-C including Maths and English. By 2009 this had improved to 58% and to 68% in 2011; after having risen to a high of 76% in 2012 it dropped again to 67% in 2013 and maintained a similar figure of 66% in 2014. In 2016 68% of students gained 5A\*-C including English and maths, with 73% gaining A\*-C in both English and maths. Sixth Form results are generally good and in 2016 nearly 20% of all exam entries were graded A\*- A with pass rates being above national average.

However, the Ofsted inspection of February 2017 judges the school to require improvement. As a school community, we have: above average results, good pastoral system 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 or have a statement. 2.5% of children have statements of SEN, with the majority having specific learning difficulties.

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.

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 breath-taking teaching and if this is what you believe in we look forward to hearing from you.



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.*