

## INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

### GENERAL

**Skipton Girls' High School** is a co-founder of **Northern Star Academies Trust (NSAT)**. Northern Star Academies Trust is a growing multi-academy trust in the north of England and comprising four schools: Skipton Girls' High School, Harrogate High School, New Park Primary Academy, and Hookstone Chase Primary School. NSAT champions the learning of students, teachers, and all Associate staff. We are committed to providing a high quality educational and learning experience for all. Our **unique cross-phase partnership** works to develop strong schools, able to serve their local community by providing high quality learning experiences and resources.

Skipton Girls' High School is an 11-18 all girls' grammar school of approx. 810 students, established in 1886. In April 2011, we gained Academy Status, an important step in securing the future of the school. We are selective on entry to Year 7 however operate a comprehensive Sixth Form (of whom 240 are in the Sixth Form) comprising of students joining us from at least 15 local schools – this makes for an exciting and diverse Post 16 community.

We are regularly among the highest achieving schools in the country. In 2016 we were awarded **100th top achieving UK State School in the Times Parent Power Poll** for the second year running and the second highest achieving state school in the North based on combined GCSE and A level results.

Reported by Ofsted (March 2008) as an “**Outstanding School**”, we were delighted to have this judgement reaffirmed in April 2011. An **outward facing school** we continue to work as an SSAT Leading Edge and a DFE/NCTL National Support School. Our work with partner institutions has focussed on the personalisation of teaching and learning through the development of lesson study, assessment, and innovative technologies. All staff fully participate in **research-engaged practice through our whole school professional development community**. Teachers in a selective girls' school are spared some problems faced by colleagues in other areas, but the rewards of working with able students and their parents present their own challenges, and expectations of staff are extremely high. The staff team at Skipton Girls' High School combine **strong academic qualifications with a high level of commitment**. We believe we provide a challenging, but highly supportive environment to work and grow as an educator.

From April 2012, we were designated a national teaching school in the **Northern Lights Teaching School Alliance**. With over 30 schools from primary and secondary and HEIs, we bring together schools who serve a diversity of communities, offering a unique range of opportunities to aspiring leaders and teachers. Together we champion school improvement and promote the very best in professional practice as our students only get one chance. **Please refer to our website [northernlightstsa.org](http://northernlightstsa.org) to find out more about our work and impact.**



## **SCHOOL VISION AND VALUES STATEMENT**

### **We aspire to be World Class**

#### **Lead an Innovative, Dynamic, Academic environment which is free from gender stereotypes**

- Unleash aspiration. Empower Student Voice and Student Leadership to contribute to and have ownership for school improvement.
- Promote a belief that 'talent isn't fixed'- Learn, unlearn, relearn. Insist on a growth mind-set outlook inside and outside classrooms
- Build and support 'brave' learners and prepare them with skills for life beyond school as a 'citizen of the World' and a 'Digital Learner'.
- Push the boundaries to promote STEM education.

#### **Collaborate and Partner within and beyond the school**

- Positively impact on students beyond our school. Continue to build and embed the capacity, capability and commitment to work beyond SGHS to support and promote System-Leadership and a fully inclusive school-led system.
- Be at the cutting edge as a 'school improvement' pathfinder and embrace national collaborative research based projects.

#### **Prioritise Inclusion, diversity, equality and equity and place these at the heart of our learning community**

- Maximise every opportunity to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths, beliefs, cultures and lifestyles through the effective spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of students.
- Engage students in activities which enrich their academic studies in order to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.

#### **Deliver Strong Communication to all stakeholders**

- Further develop and embed structures within school so that the impact of teaching on learning and progress is maximised.
- Embrace every opportunity to effectively communicate with external stakeholders to improve our local, national and international reputation and connectivity