



**Handsworth Grange**  
Community Sports College



# Handsworth Grange Community Sports College Prospectus







## Introduction from our **HEADTEACHER**

If there was one word for me that sums up our school it would be – inclusive. We look after each other and try to act as one big family.

We have pupils and staff from many different countries and we embrace each others beliefs and cultures. We celebrate our different races and backgrounds.

We recently asked our year 11 leavers, their parents and carers for their feedback on the school. The words that came up time and again were: caring, supportive, friendly, fun and committed. There is no better way to describe our school than by letting others tell you in their own words what they thought about Handsworth Grange Community Sports College:

***"You have brought both my Daughters through what can be difficult school years. They are rounded and well developed with the skills they need to get them through the coming phases of their lives. Thanks for giving them a first rate educational foundation. You've been a major asset"*** Year 11 Parent

***"It has given me the education and skills I need"***  
Year 11 Pupil

***"School is forward thinking and supportive to students of all backgrounds"*** Year 11 Parent

***"It has prepared me for the difficulty of my further and higher education"*** Year 11 Pupil

***"My child has never needed encouragement to attend school which in itself I think that speaks volumes"*** Year 11 Parent

***"All the teachers and staff are helpful and caring. I'm grateful for my time here"*** Year 11 Pupil

***"My grandson has done really well and it is down to the teachers and his work"***  
Year 11 Grandparent

Anne Quaile,  
Headteacher



## Introduction from our **GOVERNORS**

Whenever Governors visit Handsworth Grange Community Sports College, we see for ourselves that it's a school that cares for every one of its pupils. There is something valuable here for each young person, wherever they're from and whatever their experience of primary education. We have received national recognition for our approach to teaching pupils who arrive at the age of 11 struggling with school work, in particular with reading, writing and maths. Staff have built strong links with organisations

across the city and beyond, offering pupils new experiences to help them choose what path to follow when they are 16. If you're thinking of Handsworth Grange Community Sports College for your son or daughter, please visit us during the school day to experience our exceptional school community for yourself.

Elizabeth Underwood,  
Chair of Governors



# CURRICULUM



Kate Grapes, our Assistant Head, said "Teaching and Learning is at the heart of what we do. We want all pupils to enjoy and achieve. Our pupils follow a broad and balanced curriculum and staff are encouraged to enrich pupils' subject knowledge with off-site learning such as theatre visits and field trips. Enrichment opportunities are offered through subjects and year groups and there is an extensive extra-curricular programme which runs during lunchtime and after school. Literacy, ICT and numeracy are promoted in all lessons as well as the values and skills of sport that enhance our subject curriculum.

At HGCSC our KS3 programme runs in Y7-8 and KS4 runs from Y9-11.

**At Key Stage 3 all pupils at Handsworth Grange Community Sports College follow the curriculum below which is designed to meet the needs of individuals and groups of pupils.**

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Art
- Computing
- Design and Technology (including Food and Resistant Materials)
- French or Spanish
- History
- Geography
- Performing Arts
- Literacy
- Music
- Physical Education

During Year 8, students choose the courses that they will follow at Key Stage 4. The options process involves a parents' evening and intensive guidance and support for pupils."

Miss Grapes said "At KS4 pupils personalise their curriculum through the Options process. As well as a core curriculum, pupils can opt for a variety of GCSE or vocational awards from traditional subjects such as History and Geography to more vocational subjects such as Health and Social Care or Engineering.

## **At Key Stage 4 our pupils follow a core curriculum of:**

- English Language & Literature
- Mathematics
- Physical Education
- Double Award Science

## **SMSC**

All students take part in a range of drop-down learning days including health personal awareness and development and careers along with an extensive programme of assemblies and tutor time activities.

Pupils then choose from a variety of Options which may include:

- Art
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Design and Technology (Engineering, Resistant Materials or Food)
- French
- Geography
- Health and Social Care
- History
- ICT
- Media Studies
- Physical Education
- Spanish
- Sociology
- Triple Science (separate GCSE's in Biology, Chemistry & Physics)

The range of choices is updated each year. During Key Stage 4 the curriculum focusses on preparing pupils for the world of work and Post 16 applications. This is enriched by a Y11 Business Day where pupils experience face to face interviews and careers workshops.







# COMMUNITY LINKS

Jo Robinson, Participation and Engagement Manager, said "I think Handsworth Grange Community Sports College is special because it has a warm, friendly community feel to it where everyone is accepted from whatever background or school they initially came from. If you struggle with your learning or are a high flyer, we will always do our best to make sure that you come out with the grades and qualifications which are right for you.

Here at Handsworth Grange Community Sports College we have many links with the community which all aid our learning environment. These links include:

- Primary Schools
- Sports Clubs
- Parents
- Governors
- Local businesses
- Universities and Colleges
- Voluntary workers

We welcome all our community partners who help us create a community school which we feel enhances, supports and engages our local community. All this outside support helps this school greatly as it creates fantastic opportunities for the school and pupils like trips and events giving us all an extra boost.

The school has changed dramatically over the past few years I have been here and the rebuilding of areas of the school was definitely overdue. We have some staff that have been here a long time and others that are relatively new. However, they all form part of the valuable community that we have here and further contribute to the community friendly spirit that the school has always had."

## ACHIEVEMENTS

As a school we are exceptionally proud of the progress that our students make during their time with us.

All schools are now measured on the progress that students make across their curriculum.

As a school we have been demonstrating better than expected progress for a number of years and these new measures allow us to further celebrate this success.

We pride ourselves in giving every child the opportunity to achieve above and beyond their potential.

Nothing is more rewarding as a teacher than knowing that your students have achieved beyond expectations. And are leaving with the relevant skills and qualifications to be successful in life.

The students make exceptional progress at Handsworth Grange. In 2016 83% of Y11 students made expected or better progress. Our progress results place us second in the city, and significantly higher than city and national averages for student outcomes; a status of which we are extremely proud. 100% of students gained 5 or more relevant qualifications and secured places at college, sixth form or in training or employment. This is further testament to the wide range of learning opportunities, broad and balanced curriculum and rigorous assessment procedures we work so hard to provide.

## TEACHING AND LEARNING

Nick Parker, our Deputy Head in charge of monitoring and developing Teaching and Learning said "The quality of teaching at Handsworth Grange Community Sports College is improving all the time. We have fantastic teachers that are dedicated to their profession and work hard in and out of the classroom to develop new methods of teaching and learning so that all our pupils achieve their potential. We are committed to developing our pupils and our staff, this is a real strength of the school."

"Pupils experience a wide variety of learning styles and activities as they travel through different curriculum areas. We try to ensure all our lessons are fun and engaging and linked to the real world and at the same time we expect pupils to behave well and respect each other which is supported by our rewards system and code of conduct."

"I asked two of our pupils in Year 9 to record their learning in one day and this is what they reported; 'We made a camera in Science, a website in ICT, learnt how to play Blues music and made a clock in Technology - all in one day!' All our lessons are personalised so that individual needs are catered for by ensuring that we get to know all our pupils and by adapting our teaching methods to best suit them."

"It is the responsibility of the teachers and pupils to make lessons exciting, enjoyable and a quality learning experience – I try to help them to improve because this is what our school is about. We want to be the best we possibly can at everything we do!"

"If I could sum up Handsworth Grange Community Sports College in one word it would be "togetherness" because no matter who you are, where you are from, whether you are a teacher, parent, carer or a pupil, we all work together as one. We are all equal and respect and support each other. This is the core foundation of our school and what you will experience when you join us. Hope to see you soon" Mr Parker.







## CARE & SUPPORT:

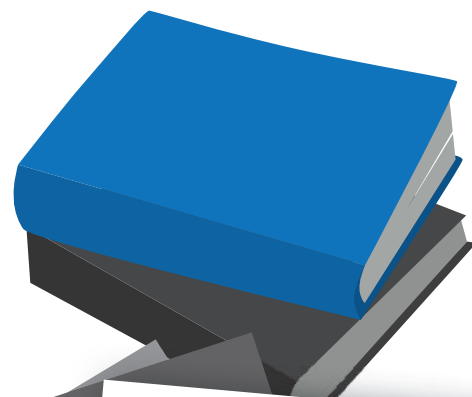
Sally Ruczenzyn, our Assistant Head, said that "We are a community built upon respect, positive relationships and high aspirations which all lead to higher achievement. All pupils are part of a tutor group and meet with their tutor daily. Tutors ensure that pupils feel safe and that they are supported fully with any concerns that arise. Parents/ Carers can contact tutors if they have any concerns. Each year group is led by a head of Year. These members of staff are key in ensuring effective communication between school and home."

Our dedicated learning mentors and behaviour psychologist are always ready to help and support pupils whatever their problems, however large or small they may be. They help pupils and parents to solve many problems but they can also use outside professionals to help if they think it will be useful. Parents and carers can be assured that we will work hard as a school community to develop and unlock every child's full potential. We are truly inclusive and we offer a safe, helpful, caring and supportive learning environment. Handsworth Grange Community Sports College is a really unique family which takes care of all its family members."

Sally spoke about the school transition programme. "Every child's welfare and happiness is very important to us and Year 7 pupils are well supported by a team of pastoral and academic staff to ensure their smooth transition from primary school."

## Minerva Learning Trust

The Minerva Learning Trust was set up in September 2014 after Handsworth Grange Community Sports College took the decision to become an academy. The Trust has seven directors, four of them established governors of Handsworth Grange Community Sports College. Its board is chaired by Ed Wydenbach, a National Leader of Governance. The Trust looks forward to working with other schools in Sheffield and beyond to help ensure more young people have a good education.



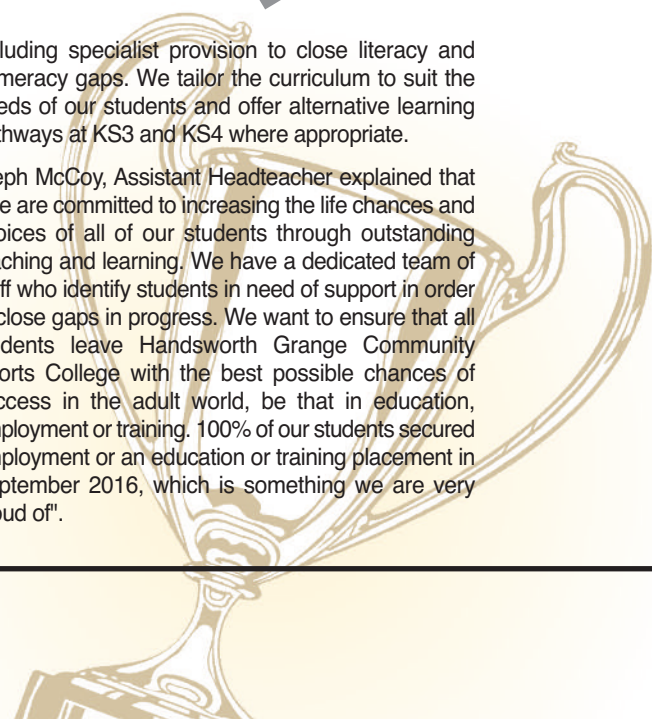
## Closing the Gap

**We take great pride in the fact that we are successful with every single one of our students. We work hard to ensure that every student can achieve to their full potential.**

Across the country as a whole, students who are from so-called disadvantaged backgrounds (for example they are entitled to free school meals) do not always perform as well as other students at the end of Key Stage 4. Handsworth Grange Community Sports College has been recognised by the government as being one of the best schools in the country for ensuring that all students, whether they are disadvantaged or not, achieve well. The school won a prestigious national award to honour this achievement and our on-going commitment to continuing our work here. We have been nationally recognised as having some of the best practice in the whole country,

including specialist provision to close literacy and numeracy gaps. We tailor the curriculum to suit the needs of our students and offer alternative learning pathways at KS3 and KS4 where appropriate.

Steph McCoy, Assistant Headteacher explained that "We are committed to increasing the life chances and choices of all of our students through outstanding teaching and learning. We have a dedicated team of staff who identify students in need of support in order to close gaps in progress. We want to ensure that all students leave Handsworth Grange Community Sports College with the best possible chances of success in the adult world, be that in education, employment or training. 100% of our students secured employment or an education or training placement in September 2016, which is something we are very proud of".





## The School Day

8.30 – 8.45	Arrive at School
8.50 – 9.00	Tutorial Time
9.00 – 10.00	Period 1
10.00 – 11.00	Period 2
11.00 – 11.15	Break Time
11.15 – 12.15	Period 3
12.15 – 12.25	KS4 Registration
12.15 – 12.50	KS3 Lunch Time
12.25 – 1.00	KS4 Lunch Time
12.50 – 1.00	KS3 Registration
1.00 – 2.00	Period 4
2.00 – 3.00	Period 5

Charlotte Lake, our Head of Computing and Business Studies said the school facilities are fantastic at HGCSC. We have 4 purpose built computing classrooms with 32 PCs in each. There is also a well-resourced library with another 30 PCs. Most classrooms in school have ICT available and there are additional laptops that can be booked by departments. In addition classrooms have interactive whiteboards and other technical equipment. In other areas of the school Macs are used by students to design and edit, students are taught the necessary skills required.



The focus has moved away from an ICT to a Computing curriculum and students at KS3 study computer science as core with the option to study this or a more vocational ICT qualification at KS4. As part of this new curriculum students gain skills and experience in different programming languages, for e.g. Python programming and HTML but also have the opportunity to explore web design and editing software.

Additionally we offer students the opportunity to take part in projects such as the Cutlers' Ambassador programme which allows students to develop computing skills in partnership with the University of Sheffield and our feeder primary schools.

## HEAD OF PE

Kay Barnes, our Head of PE said "The Sports specialism is incredibly important and sport is central to the Believe and Achieve philosophy of the whole school. Sport teaches you how to be a team player and to value your role in part of the bigger picture. Sport teaches you essential life skills of commitment, determination, courage, respect, friendship and teamwork". "The PE curriculum is designed around our pupils. It offers a varied, challenging and engaging programme where all pupils feel safe, valued and can achieve".

"There are many clubs and teams that you can take part in, these include rounders, badminton, football, trampolining, netball, handball, cricket, cross country, fitness, climbing, girls football and basketball – but this is not the full list, come and find out more, there is a different club available every night after school!"

## SCHOOL GAMES AND FORGE SSP

Nathan Barthrop, our School Games Organiser said that "As a sports college we aim to meet the needs of all pupils through the additional opportunities that having specialist sports college status provides us with. As a specialist sports college and regional lead school for the Youth Sport Trust's Leadership, Coaching and Volunteering programme, we have created a culture and ethos that enables all our pupils to achieve to the best of their ability and develop the necessary skills to succeed in life. Every pupil is encouraged to participate in extra-curricular activities in order to raise aspirations, and we use the culture that is gained from success in sport to promote success in all subjects".

"The school is very supportive of the national School Games Programme and Forge School Sports Partnership, through which we have links with over 30 Secondary and Primary schools across the city, providing support in the development of PE and school sport".

"The sense of community here is unique, what I especially like are the many community sports we have available to us at school through our links with the city of Sheffield. We have strong links with the local schools, Sheffield International Venue facilities and local sports clubs".

"I think sport is so important to school pupils because it teaches them how to be fit and healthy and, it's a break from the regular curriculum in a practical subject area".





# “PUPIL QUOTES”



## WEARING OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM WITH PRIDE

### Djessie Phillimore Primary School

School is your education, the more you work hard, the more you will make progress. You can make your parents and school proud. You can make a difference. The staff are really friendly and help everyone they can.

### Jordan Prince Edward Primary School

I was nervous when I first came here because I didn't know how I would do in lessons. The teachers really help me a lot. I like Technology, PE and Science. I like Science because I like my teacher, she is always helping me understand my work.

### Daisi Ridall Brunswick Primary

When I first came to Handsworth Grange, I felt really welcomed and everyone is really friendly. I feel like I can ask my teachers any question. It's a really good school, my favourite subject is Maths.

### Kristian Acres Hill Primary School

When I first came to Handsworth Grange, I felt scared as there were bigger people than me. I'm getting used to it now and I like coming to school. I've made new friends and the teachers are really kind.

### Shannon – Ballifield Primary School

On my first day here I was really nervous. After my first few lessons I knew my way around a little bit, but one day I got lost and got really worried. A teacher helped me find my lesson. Now I don't know what I was worrying about to start with."

### Ibrahim Phillimore Primary School

I feel more confident at Handsworth Grange now. When I first came here I was getting lost a lot at first. I like Science lessons and I've made a lot of new friends in the first couple of days.

### Sahil High Hazels Academy

My favourite subjects are Maths and Technology, I enjoy doing group work. We really get a chance to show what we're capable of. The staff will always help you and push you to achieve your best.

### Harvey Hands Athelstan Primary

My favourite subject is Science. I was really nervous when I came here from Primary, but I feel really confident now. I know my way around school. I'm looking forward to starting my Chemistry lessons soon!

### The agreed uniform is as follows:

- School Blazer with logo from Pinders
- White shirt, short or long sleeve
- School Tie (Pinders)
- **Black trousers** or **Black knee length** skirts
- **Plain black** footwear. (no coloured or white stripes or edging is allowed)
- Grey V-neck jumper with school logo from Pinders (optional)
- Black, white or grey socks.
- Black Kameeze or Shalwar (optional choice)
- Black, grey, royal blue or white headscarves.

### Items of clothing that are not permitted include:

- Jeans, leggings, combat trousers, harem pants, ¾ trousers or tracksuit bottoms.
- Casual or fashion clothes
- Hoodies (these should **not** be worn as coats or worn under blazers and will be removed from pupils until the end of the day if they are seen in school)
- Hats
- Fashion belts
- Any non-plain black footwear as well as Ugg style boots, flip flops, high heeled shoes.
- Headwear (except for religious reasons)

### Jewellery

For health and safety reasons there is a limit to the amount of jewellery that can be worn this includes:

- One watch
- One small ring and
- One pair of stud earrings.

### Items of jewellery not permitted include:

- Necklace
- Hooped or fashion ear-rings
- Big fashion bracelets.
- Excessive facial piercings are not acceptable for health and safety reasons.

### Equipment

All pupils should bring the following equipment every day:

- School bag big enough to hold an A4 folder
- School Planner
- Pencil case filled with: pens, pencils, rubber, ruler
- Scientific calculator





# Our School Expectations

## 'BELIEVE & ACHIEVE'

We are committed to creating an outstanding learning environment in which all pupils can learn, make progress and achieve their full potential.

We have three simple school rules which we expect all pupils to follow everyday. Following these simple rules means that we have a happy school where pupils can concentrate on their learning.

### Our school rules:

- Be safe
- Be responsible
- Be respectful

*The ethos of the school is such that praise and incentives are integral to the day to day running of the school. The school rewards system sets out the different ways in which the school recognises pupils' hard work.*





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