**RAVENSCLIFFE HIGH SCHOOL AND SPORTS COLLEGE**

**Background Information**

Ravenscliffe High School and Sports College is Calderdale's only Secondary Special School, providing education for 187 students aged 11 - 19 years. The school caters for pupils with a wide range of Special Educational Needs, including moderate and severe learning difficulties, profound and multiple learning difficulties, Autistic spectrum condition, sensory impairment, and physical disabilities. A small percentage have identified moderate emotional and behavioural difficulties.

The school has grown significantly over the last five years from 134 students in 2014 to the current 187 on role. Information contained in the School Development Plan, available on the school website, shows that student numbers are expected to continue to increase reaching 241 students on role by 2023. The increase in student numbers is one of the reasons why Ravenscliffe became a two site school in September 2018 with KS3 and KS4 (Y7 to Y11) being located in Skircoat Green and the KS5 (Sixth Form) occupying a new building at Spring Hall both in Halifax. Students travel daily to the school from all parts of Calderdale. The majority of students transfer from one of Calderdale's two Primary Special Schools; Highbury at Rastrick and Woodbank at Luddendenfoot. However, some move from mainstream schools or from establishments outside the authority to take advantage of the modular curriculum and individual educational programmes which Ravenscliffe offers. The curriculum is delivered by well qualified teachers and support assistants, to groups in which favourable staff to student ratios are maintained.

The organisation of the school reflects that of a mainstream Secondary School, with students in chronological year groups with all National Curriculum subjects being offered, in addition to Personal and Social Education, Careers advice and opportunities for Work Experience or Post school preparation activities.

Ravenscliffe is an outstanding school where a committed team of staff work together to provide the best possible education for each individual student. Our school ethos is built on positive relationships, good communication, recognising and celebrating achievement and mutual support. We are a Sports College, encouraging healthy and active lifestyles. We respect the environment, doing what we can to make a positive contribution through recycling and promoting “green” activities. Music and performance play a key role in the life of the school which is a focal point for the local community.

# **The School Ethos**

The aim of the school is

"To recognise and respond to the individual needs of its students and provide them with a relevant and challenging curriculum whilst working closely with parents and carers."

We aspire to achieve this by:

* providing a positive, well resourced learning environment staffed by trained and committed professionals
* encouraging students to develop a positive attitude to learning through the celebration of success and achievement and supporting them to become as independent as possible
* maintaining high expectations in terms of attendance, behaviour and co-operation in learning
* providing a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum, including the National Curriculum, which excites and challenges students
* ensuring a safe and caring environment where individual views on religious and cultural issues are respected as students develop into responsible citizens
* working closely with parents, carers and the local community
* managing the funding and resources available in an effective and efficient manner

The School was most recently inspected in 2017 by the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted). The report describes Ravenscliffe as an “outstanding” school

Copies of the full Report are available in school or online at www.ofsted.gov.uk