

# Formby High School

'Determined to Achieve'



DMA/LFO

January 2020

Headteacher:  
Mr D A Mackenzie  
BA (Hons) NPQH

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Dear Applicant

Thank you very much for taking an interest in Formby High School. I joined as Headteacher in 2012 and was overwhelmed by the warmth of the welcome I received. We are a friendly, caring community where people look out for and respect one another, and positive relationships are central to all that we do. Students have a genuine thirst for learning. They are respectful, hard-working and proud of their school. This makes working at Formby High School very rewarding. It is, though, a challenging environment because aspirations are high and students need to be stimulated and engaged to fulfil their potential.

I am very proud of the open and collaborative workplace the school fosters. Our staff work hard and are highly valued, which is evidenced by a very low staff turnover. Time is invested to develop employees and support their career aspirations. The CPD programme is comprehensive and career progression is encouraged. Whilst the vast majority of employees choose to remain at Formby High School for the long term, we are proud of those who leave to take up promotion elsewhere which, in the last three years, has included Headship, Assistant Headship and Head of Department. The well-being of our staff and students is a priority and we have an extensive programme in place to promote good well-being amongst our employees.

The school's Governors take very keen interest in the life of the school and are very familiar with the school's strengths and weaknesses. They are very pro-active, supportive, visible and passionate about the school being successful. The skills and expertise of our Governors have certainly contributed to the excellent reputation of the school, its popularity and financial stability.

The school is situated in a prosperous area. Formby is idyllic and the surrounding pine forests and coastline are stunning. It has excellent amenities, including seven very good primary schools. Liverpool, a thriving and culturally rich city, is on our doorstep and staff travel to work on foot, by car, train or bicycle (using the extensive network of cycle routes in the local area).

There is much to celebrate about our community. We are, however, reflective, realistic and restless to improve. Fresh ideas and the perspectives of those who are new to the school are very welcome and, if you join us in the future, you will have the opportunity to influence and shape the future of our school.

To find out more, please take the time to visit the school website and Twitter feed which provide excellent windows into our world. You are also welcome to visit the school in advance of submitting your application.





To finish, I will share with you a few words from a letter I recently received from a student in Year 7:

'Before I started Formby High School I was never wanting to go to school – now I never want to leave. I am writing to tell you how amazing this school is and how it has changed me for the better. I am very considerate towards every student and every teacher and school has given me the courage to always believe in myself.'

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D A Mackenzie'.

**D A Mackenzie**  
Headteacher