

HARRYTOWN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Harrytown, Romiley, Stockport. SK6 3BU Tel: 0161 430 5277

www.harrytownschool.org

The Diocese of Shrewsbury in partnership with Stockport LA



SCHOOL DESCRIPTION FOR PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYEES:

Harrytown Catholic High School is a voluntary aided Catholic comprehensive school for boys and girls aged 11-16. It is maintained by Stockport Local Education Authority and is under the trusteeship of the Diocese of Shrewsbury. We are a smaller than the average-sized secondary school which serves an increasingly diverse community drawn primarily from seven associated primary schools located in the east of the borough of Stockport.

As a Catholic school we intend to put Jesus Christ at the centre of everything we do. Therefore we will strive:

- **to live the gospel**
- **to promote excellence and achievement for all**
- **to nurture partnerships**

Harrytown is first and foremost a Catholic School, where great emphasis is placed on developing each child to his or her full potential. We celebrated our centenary in 2013 and are very proud of our long tradition of delivering a high quality Catholic education for the community whom we serve.

Harrytown offers pupils and their families a Catholic education in a caring and orderly community where we always try to live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our daily lives. We aim to know and value our pupils as individuals and to help everyone to develop their gifts and talents through a well-balanced, forward looking curriculum supported by traditional values of hard work and cooperative behaviour. Relationships are fundamental to our mission and methodology and we work hard to nurture them in order to support pupil progress and achievement throughout the pupils five years at the school and beyond.

Examination results are consistently good and the majority of our pupils take 9 or 10 GCSEs at the end of Year 11. The school has very strong links with the excellent Aquinas College which, as our local Catholic sixth form provider is where the vast majority of our pupils go after completing their GCSEs with us. The school enjoys excellent working relationships and partnerships with other local primary and high schools and we are committed to working with Stockport local authority, our diocese and our family of diocesan schools. Extra curricular opportunities include sports activities, musical events, field trips, retreats, foreign visits and holidays. We are keen to develop the "whole person" by encouraging a culture of high aspiration, initiative development, self-confidence and active involvement in charity work.

There are opportunities for pupils of all ages to take on additional responsibilities through a range of activities such as the school council, peace council, pupil leadership opportunities, youth SVP and sports leaders programmes – to name but a few. At Harrytown the pursuit of personal achievement is combined with an emphasis on the importance of working with and for others, especially those in need.

The school enjoys the support, challenge and guidance offered by a highly skilled and effective governing body who, as volunteers, dedicate a significant amount of time, energy and expertise to help make our school 'better than previous best' on our ongoing journey of improvement. The leadership team is;

Headteacher:	Mr K Turmeau	G.Mus., P.G. Dip., M.A. NPQH
Deputy Headteacher:	Mrs L Garratt	B.Ed LftM
Assistant Headteachers:	Miss J Cullen	B.Sc. (Hons) LftM
	Mr M Bowden	B.A. (Hons) LftM
	Mr A Turner	B.A. (Hons)
	Mr C McCreesh	B.A. (Hons) MA

General Introduction

Founded in 1913 as an independent convent grammar school, in 1978 Harrytown Catholic High School became an 11-16 mixed comprehensive school.

There are currently c.790 pupils on the school roll and the current community which we serve is drawn mainly from seven associated parishes and their primary schools. There is a determination to maintain and where possible extend our close links with this supporting community. Through our mission statement we are strongly committed to living the Gospel, pursuing achievement for all and nurturing partnerships. There is a tradition of active worship, community service and active involvement in fund-raising for charities. We are always keen to appoint staff who can assist with, and support our range of extra-curricular programmes and bring their expertise and interests to bear on extending this provision further. The school was designated a specialist science college and despite the demise of specialist schools programme we retain a strong link to science through the activities on offer within a large successful science department.

Our Curriculum

The academic structure of the school is based upon subject departments, which are encouraged to work co-operatively. Subject Leaders and senior staff meet regularly to discuss, evaluate, monitor and plan – with improvement in pupil outcomes and achievements being at the heart of all these processes. There is a published calendar of meetings whereby improvements and developments in learning and teaching are considered along with aspects of curriculum and staff development. Our staff are kept informed about day to day issues through a daily briefing before school each morning except Fridays when Holy Mass is offered in our Centenary chapel before school and briefing takes place via email on this day. All daily briefings and weekly bulletins are published on the SIMS system and staff are expected to read and implement the information contained therein. A number of working parties have been formed, as the need has arisen, to discuss particular areas of focus or importance.

Our curriculum offer across Years 7-9 is both broad and balance and in Year 7 the majority of subjects are taught in mixed-ability groups, the school has recently moved to a system where more subjects can set with regard to academic ability in years 7, 8 and 9. The key

stage 4 curriculum again is broad and balanced and the school arranges both year 10 and 11 into two populations where setting takes place as appropriate for each student's ability. There are a number of subjects which appear in the key stage 4 curriculum which are in addition to those offered at key stage 3.

Learning Support is provided as required in small groups for pupils withdrawn from other lessons for specific work/diagnosed needs or as "in class" support. The school has a robust programme of interventions to further support the learning and development of our pupils and we use regular checks of performance and pastoral data to direct our efforts to the areas of greatest need.

All pupils in key stage 3 (Years 7-9) are given experience in Music, Art, History, Geography, Citizenship/Ethics for Life, Design Technology subjects and at least one Modern Language and they develop their ICT/computing skills through a combination of discrete lessons and cross-curricular provision. The core curriculum comprises Religious Education, Mathematics, English, Science and Physical Education.

In Years 10 and 11 optional subjects are available. A core of Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Science, Physical Education, Ethics for Life and ICT remains compulsory for all pupils. A guided choice is made from the option subjects to ensure that all pupils follow a suitable and balanced combination of subjects. The school currently offers pupils a choice from 4 options pools within a system designed to enable the pupils to achieve not only the EBacc but also a positive Progress/Attainment 8 outcome.

We are continually considering further modifications to the curriculum which we offer in the light of proposals and changes in policy which come from our political leaders. The school operates on a fortnightly 50 period (1 hour) cycle. We have a house system which works alongside the pastoral system, where tutors and year heads follow their form classes through the school.

Our Examination Results

The summer examination results in 2015 saw the school achieve results with 66% of pupils achieving 5 A*-C passes including English and Maths and 97% achieving 5 or more passes at A*-C. The school has, in recent years, featured in the *Daily Telegraph* and *The Times Good Schools Guides* and in *The Observer's* list of the country's top 100 state schools. We were inspected by Ofsted in 2011 and the school was judged to be good with many outstanding features and most recently in January 2015 under the new framework where we were judged as requiring improvement. A Section 48 Inspection undertaken by the diocese in 2011 judged the school to be outstanding.

Pastoral Care

The pastoral system is designed to complement and support the academic work of the school and promote the welfare, wellbeing and safety of all pupils. Form classes are arranged in mixed-ability groupings. The Heads of Year are supported at each key stage by a pastoral manager (who does not have a teaching commitment), a Head of Key Stage and of course by the Senior Leadership Team. Heads of Year and Form Tutors progress through the

school with their Year and form groups respectively. In addition the school has the support of a colleague from the Stockport behaviour support service team (SBSS), a professional counsellor, learning mentors, school nurse and a full time Lay Chaplain. All teaching staff are required to contribute to the pastoral care of the pupils in all their dealings with them and to undertake, as requested, specific duties within and in support of the form-tutor system. **These duties are as important as subject responsibilities.** Contact with parents is well established and encouraged as we believe that this relationship is in the best interest of the pupils and the school.

The Friends of Harrytown is a supportive association of parents and friends which organises social and fund-raising events and is active in its financial support for the school. Relations with parents are good and Parents' Evenings are held at least annually for all the year groups.

Accommodation

The school comprises of six buildings, the main building (Ampere) housing Maths, English, Science, RE, Citizenship/Ethics for Life and Special Educational Needs facilities and the newly built centenary Chapel. In addition there are also a number of offices and one ICT suite. The Boyle building is a separate building and houses the library which comprises the more traditional books and printed resources and two bookable computer suites.

- The **Curie** building contains the Food Technology Room and a computer suite.
- The **Dalton** building houses the PE sports hall, changing rooms and PE office.
- The **Einstein** building houses the dining hall, music, music technology and drama.
- The **Faraday** building contains History and Geography,
- and finally The **Galileo** building is home to Art, Technology, ICT and Foreign Languages.

There are six well equipped and resourced science laboratories, three specialised Design Technology rooms, a Music/Drama area, Hall and stage, sports hall, seven computer suites and a Library. There are an additional 22 general classrooms about half of which have been refurbished in the last few years. Our computer network provides for the use of information technology in all part of the buildings and we have wireless network connectivity in most areas of the school. Our recently constructed Chapel is now the focal point for school life and assemblies and services are held weekly. There are playing fields and tennis courts adjacent to the school, and a wooded area suitable for environmental studies within the school grounds.

Further Information

This position is on the staff of a Catholic Voluntary Aided school in which the Governors are the employers. In order to promote the primary philosophy and purpose of the school consistently and with integrity, practising Catholics or **active, committed** members of other Christian traditions who will be positive examples will be preferred, **but applications will be positively received from other candidates who can honestly declare a genuine empathy with and support for the aims of this Catholic mixed comprehensive school and a**

willingness to engage in its work actively in every way. This will include, for teaching staff, a willingness to attend and/or on occasions lead form-prayers, assemblies, school Masses and other liturgical celebrations including days of recollection/retreat arranged for form tutor groups. Non-teaching staff are welcome to participate if duties/workload permit. As will be readily appreciated we are naturally keen to enhance the distinctive nature of the school through the work of all subject areas and the valued individual contributions of all staff. Within the framework of GCSE and National Curriculum many subjects may have a social and moral content.

Applicants for teaching posts are requested to provide the name of their parish priest or church minister as an additional referee wherever possible. Applicants for non-teaching posts are invited to do so if they wish.

The school is committed to its responsibility under the *'Safeguarding of Children and safer recruitment in Education'* statute and will undertake all necessary checks with all relevant authorities to verify the credentials of each and every candidate and their suitability to work with children. References will always be sought from the candidates' most recent employers.

Any offer of employment is made subject to satisfactory references and appropriate clearance from all relevant bodies.

Please note that a successful candidate, not currently on staff, will be required to sign the most current Catholic Education Service model contract of employment which has been adopted by the governing body.

A complete non-smoking policy throughout the school site has been adopted and successful applicants will be required to adhere to this policy.

Successful applicants will be allocated a professional friend who will support them through their induction period. They will receive series of inductions booklets and handbooks and will be expected to participate in the schools induction programme.

The school website is to be found at www.harrytownschool.org

Mr Keith Turmeau
Headteacher