

# Holmfirth High School

This highly successful school has 1330 pupils, a teaching staff of 82 and 70 support staff.



Originally built in 1959, the school has undergone extensive refurbishment in recent years. Its facilities now include a Modern Foreign Language suite, 6 ICT rooms, a Drama studio, 8 Science laboratories, a Music suite with practice rooms and a brand new SEN department and RE/PSCHE block. The specialist school initiative has also meant the further building work of a new Maths block.

The catchment area comprises Holmfirth and surrounding villages. These provide an intake which is well balanced socially and academically. The school is conveniently situated about seven miles from Huddersfield, surrounding countryside is beautiful, set as we are in the Pennine Hills. Holmfirth is within 30-45 minutes of the centres of Leeds, Manchester and Sheffield and is easily accessible from the M1 and M62 motorways.

The school takes its community responsibilities seriously. It adopts an open policy towards parents, and pupils are encouraged to participate in the life of the school and locality in a positive and helpful manner. The school also manages the sports centre accommodation which is used by local individuals and community groups in the evenings. We became an extended school in April 2006.

As a school, we aim to be sympathetic and understanding while being purposeful and demanding. We encourage all pupils to strive to achieve the highest academic level of which they are capable.

High personal and disciplinary standards are also regarded as important. We are aware of the difficulties that all pupils share as they pass through a large school during adolescence, and we also recognise the special requirements of a small number of boys and girls who have personal or academic problems and provide as much support as we are able. We have a full time pupil counselling service and a pupil health and information service on site.

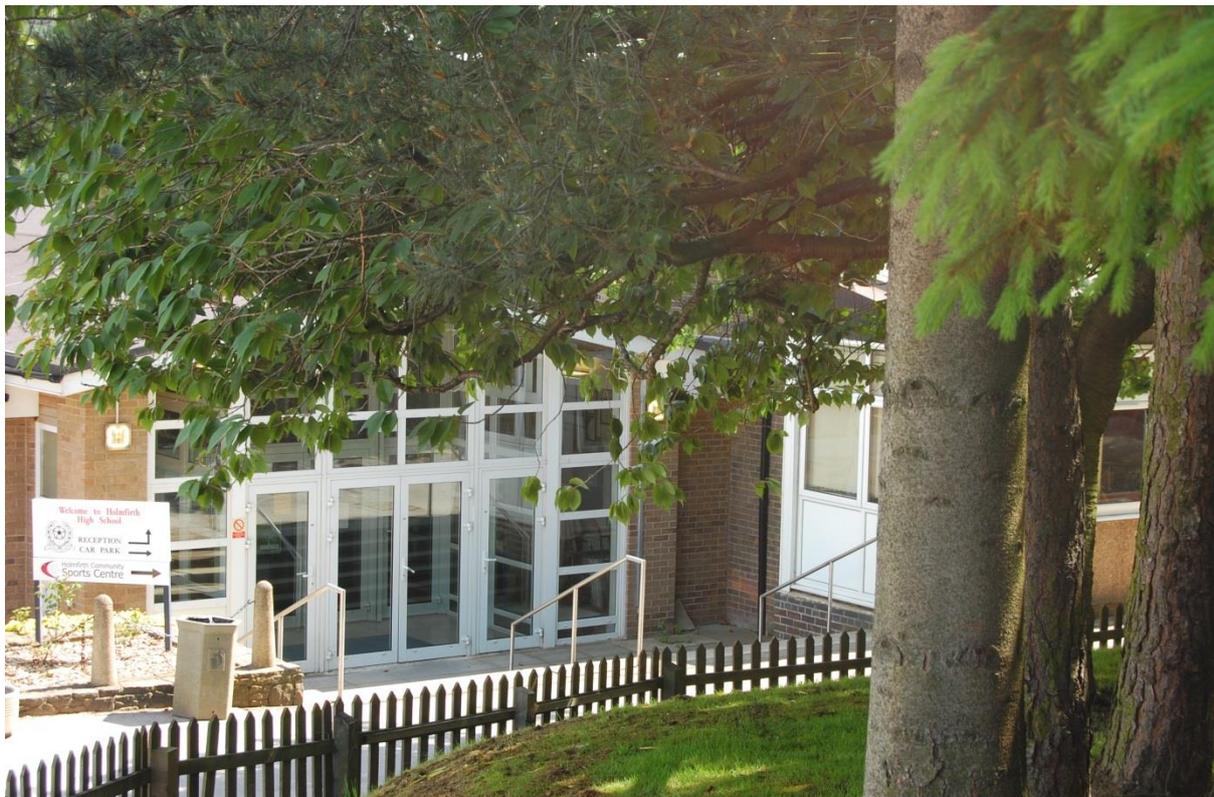
The school is organised on a year basis, with Heads of Years overseeing the job of Form Tutors. Pupils are taught in their mixed ability tutorial groups in Year 7, although setting is introduced in a number of subjects in Year 8. In Years 10 and 11, all pupils now follow a

course which enables them to study English; Mathematics; Science (either combined or three separate subjects); ICT; Religious, Personal and Social Education including Careers, and Physical Education. In addition, pupils take four other choices from a wide programme of vocational and academic options.

The school has an excellent record in public examinations; the great majority of our pupils achieve high standards at education or training beyond the age of sixteen. The average pupil achieves 10 A\* - C passes including Maths, English, two Sciences and a Modern Foreign Language, over 50% go on to university and only 1% become NEET.

We attach great importance to the place of extra-curricular activities in the school programme. A wide variety of cultural, sporting, outdoor pursuits and other activities take place, with outstanding levels of success being achieved. It is hoped that applicants will give a clear indication of areas in which they are able and willing to participate.

We hope that this outline has been useful. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to telephone the school. In normal circumstances, the appointment will be made within one month from the appearance of the advertisement. Unless applicants have been invited for interview within this period, it should be assumed that the post has been filled. It is regretted that expense makes it impossible to write personally to all unsuccessful candidates.



# School Ethos

Holmfirth High School is a happy, vibrant, respectful and caring place to learn and work. Above all we value strong relationships between all our students, staff and parents. These relationships are built on mutual trust, respect and support for one another. Our staff place the interest of all our students first and strive for them to leave us as confident, decent, well-rounded individuals who have achieved as highly as possible. We are absolutely committed to looking after the well-being of all who learn and work in our school.

## Our Vision

- ☒ Nurture a caring, positive learning community with high expectations and standards
- ☒ Inspire a passion for learning so that all can achieve their potential
- ☒ Value all members of our school community, our partnerships and our society
- ☒ Empower ourselves to change our lives and those within our community for the better
- ☒ Develop the social skills and have the confidence to seize all opportunities and truly stand as equals in any situation

## Our Shared Values

- ☒ Fairness – Respect the rule of law, always aiming to do the right thing and encouraging others to do the same
- ☒ Kindness – Be an emotionally intelligent community capable of understanding the feelings of others
- ☒ Respect – Engage perceptively and caringly with the world around us, showing understanding and celebrating diversity
- ☒ Equality – Provide and promote opportunity for all to achieve and feel a sense of belonging
- ☒ Honesty – Earn the loyalty, trust and confidence of others, showing we value and genuinely care for them
- ☒ Enterprise – Celebrate and encourage effort, initiative and creativity
- ☒ Responsibility – Appreciate and understand their role in the school, embracing leadership opportunities

# Local Information

## Holmfirth – the Heart of the Holme Valley

Located in the heart of the beautiful Holme Valley, Holmfirth is a small town that sits just north of the Peak District in West Yorkshire. The town is better known as the location for the popular BBC TV series 'Last of the Summer Wine', with thousands of fans making the journey every year to visit such locations as Sid's Café and Nora Battye's Steps.



Whilst 'Last of the Summer Wine' is a major visitor attraction, it certainly is not the only reason people visit Holmfirth. With its breathtaking scenery across the Holme Valley, Holmfirth is also popular with walkers and wildlife enthusiasts alike as it is within easy reach of a number of beautiful reservoirs and picturesque surroundings, and if that isn't enough, there are some wonderful attractions to be seen in the town itself - from the last of the Summer Wine Exhibition, to the Holmfirth Vineyard, to the Postcard Museum or pop into The Nook for a cheeky pint!

Holmfirth is also home to a wide range of eating places, including restaurants, wine bars, pubs and take-aways that cater for a wide variety of tastes. It is one of the most popular and much loved destinations in West Yorkshire, with visitors flocking to the sleepy town all year round, Holmfirth is a wonderful place to visit, with lots of things to see and do.

Holmfirth is within easy reach of the major cities of Manchester, Leeds and Sheffield being accessible from both the M1 and M62 motorways. Our nearest town is Huddersfield which is home to Huddersfield University - winner of the Sunday Times Best University of the Year Award 2014. Huddersfield also has three sixth form colleges – Greenhead College, Kirklees College and New College.

There are many estate agents and letting agents in Holmfirth and Huddersfield, together with numerous high street banks and building societies.