

# PROSPECTUS

dr.



 $\star$  respect  $\star$  resilience  $\star$  integrity  $\star$  compassion  $\star$  ambition

## **HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME**



I would like to give you an overview of our school and what makes us unique.

Our school has been proud to serve Pudsey and the surrounding area for 117 years. In September 2021 we marked a new chapter in our long history as we reverted to our previous name alongside introducing a new uniform. We have spent the last three years completely redesigning our school curriculum to focus on ensuring our students are provided with an education which goes well beyond the National Curriculum or exam specifications. Our name change is a public statement which reflects our belief that the key to a good school is an excellent standard of education in every way.

We want to ensure that our students are provided with an education which encompasses the very best knowledge from previous generations alongside the most up to date information to allow them to lead a fulfilling life when they eventually leave school.

The school is one of the most rapidly improving schools in the country with good exam results at both GCSE and A level combined with a good rating from Ofsted achieved in 2019 in all areas including our Sixth Form. We are completely focussed on building on this progress to make Pudsey Grammar School one of the best in the region.

Our response to the Covid-19 pandemic ensured that our students were online and learning from the first day of the lockdown. The systems we developed were identified by Leeds City Council as exemplary and we were one of only three schools to be asked to complete a case study which was shared across all forty secondary schools. In June 2021 our staff were awarded a Certificate of Excellence by the Pearson National Teaching Awards in recognition of the systems we had used during the pandemic. We were awarded the prestigious role of being a Department for Education National Behaviour Hub school in 2022 in recognition of our 'exemplary behaviour culture'. We are one of only 20 such secondary schools out of over 4000 across the country and it is an acknowledgement of the excellent standards of behaviour that we have established. The work involves us acting as consultants to support schools who wish to improve their own behaviour systems over the next three years.

We are the only secondary school in the west of Leeds which has a large and popular Sixth Form of over 250 students taught in a state of the art multi-million pound building. This means that students at Pudsey Grammar School do not need to endure the disruption of switching to another school or college to continue their education after Year 11. We currently offer twenty A levels and six Applied General Courses to our Post 16 students, many of whom go on to secure places at top universities, high calibre apprenticeships or excellent college places. It also means that our staff are not pigeonholed into teaching just one group of students.

The same staff who are teaching A levels are inspiring our Year 7s and as a result they can highlight to them how the subject has an impact on the wider world.

Our new House system which is modelled on the best practice from the private school system and will create smaller communities of students across the school, encourage them to try activities they may not have considered previously, boost their confidence and support healthy competition across the school.

Our pastoral system is excellent and provides students with support, guidance and care whatever age they are and whatever their needs or ambitions. All students have a Form Tutor that they meet with regularly throughout the week alongside a Head of Year who deals with more complex issues and a Director of Studies who focusses on supporting the academic progress of each student.

I hope you find the rest of the information in our prospectus of use. Please see our website for more details.





'THE PRINCIPAL SETS VERY HIGH STANDARDS AND HAS A CLEAR VIEW OF WHAT HE WANTS TO ACHIEVE FOR THE PUPILS IN HIS SCHOOL. STRONG LEADERSHIP, AT ALL LEVELS, IS AT THE HEART OF THIS SCHOOL'S SUCCESS'



### **OUR VALUES**

#### **OUR VISION**

Pudsey Grammar School is a truly inspirational and caring community of learning where everyone within it is developed and supported to achieve their very best. Our students leave with great resilience, excellent knowledge, skills and the cultural capital which allows them to lead a happy and fulfilling life.

A culture of excellence across the entire school captivates students and results in them exceeding the high expectations which the school has embedded in previous years.

#### **OUR VALUES**

Pudsey Grammar School is a truly inspirational and caring community of learning where everyone within it is developed and supported to achieve their very best. ★ **RESPECT** - we show respect for ourselves, others and for people who are different from us. We show respect for the building, our local and wider environments. We are mutually respectful, treating others the way we want to be treated ourselves.

★ **RESILIENCE** - we have a clear self belief, determination and understand that making mistakes is a key part of learning. We know that the more effort we put in, the better we will become.

★ INTEGRITY - we are trustworthy and honest, true to our word and take responsibility for our actions.

★ COMPASSION - we care and are considerate towards others. We value kindness, empathy and understanding and have a strong desire to make the world a better place.

★ AMBITION - we value educational achievement, have high expectations of ourselves and aim to be the best person we can. No matter how good we are, we always strive for improvement.







'THE PROGRESS MADE BY PUPILS HAS ACCELERATED CONSIDERABLY IN THE LAST TWO YEARS. KEY STAGE 3 PUPILS MADE EQUALLY STRONG PROGRESS AS THOSE IN KEY STAGE 4'

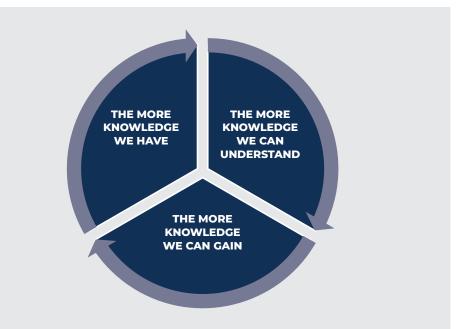


#### **CURRICULUM**

We have redesigned our school curriculum to ensure that our students gain the knowledge and skills which allows them to lead a happy, successful and fulfilling life. The world is a rapidly evolving place and we want to ensure that our students are informed about the latest developments alongside being taught the best of previous generations' knowledge. We also want our students to have a wide range of opportunities and experiences to develop their skills through our extensive extra-curricular provision.

Our curriculum is broad and goes well beyond the National Curriculum and exam requirements. Our lessons are carefully sequenced and planned to build on work that has been taught before. Lessons are also organised across different subjects to help students make the links that ties the curriculum together.

Our school offers a wide range of courses to our students and as we have a large, popular Sixth Form we are one of the few schools which can provide a high quality and wide ranging education from Year 7 through to Year 13 without the need for students to move schools at the end of Year 11. All students are provided with knowledge organisers to keep which equip them with all of the key knowledge they need for each subject. The knowledge organisers are used as the basis of homework and revision exercises to ensure that students retain knowledge. Our curriculum philosophy is based on the following cycle.







'BEHAVIOUR BOTH IN LESSONS AND ABOUT THE SCHOOL IS GOOD. PUPILS TREAT EACH OTHER AND ADULTS WITH RESPECT'



# **STUDENT WELLBEING**

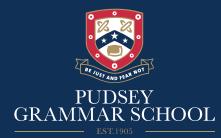
The school has a comprehensive structure which ensures that students are supported and cared for at every stage. Each student will have a Form Tutor who will meet with them every morning - this provides consistent support and advice for the student. In addition, each year group is supported by a Year Leader who deals with any pastoral issues that arise. Each year group also has a Director of Studies who monitors and supports each students' academic progress throughout the year. A member of the Senior Leadership Team is also assigned to each year group to provide additional support.

The ethos of the school ensures that bullying is not tolerated and as a result the number of such instances are low and dealt with swiftly. We also have a small team of child protection staff who support students' wellbeing and safety. We pride ourselves in being a highly inclusive school. We have an extensive team of support staff led by our Director of Special Educational Needs who ensure that the needs of every student are fully met. This team work very closely with students and their families to support them throughout their time at Pudsey Grammar School.

We have our own full time Attendance Officers who works closely with the Deputy Headteacher to ensure that our students have excellent attendance and to support both students and families in achieving this goal. In addition to our daily Form Time, students will participate in focussed days across the year which are centred on personal, social and health education topics. We also run sessions for both parents and students regarding e-safety.







#### **'PUPILS FEEL WELL** SUPPORTED BY STAFF'



### ACTIVITIES

Student achievement and effort features highly at Pudsey Grammar School with thousands of achievement points being awarded across the school each week and regular year group rewards assemblies.

Through our House system we are creating smaller communities for all students and staff, providing exciting and fun opportunities for students to compete against each other, gain confidence and win valuable House points. These are celebrated in our House Assemblies which take place every three weeks and the winning House Team is awarded the Pudsey Grammar School Victor Ludorum cup which was gifted to the school in 1943.

We also have an annual prize-giving ceremony for each year group. The school offers a massive variety of extracurricular activities for students to get involved in. We have a strong record in sport with our students featuring in both local, regional, national and in some cases international sporting events.

Our PE team run a variety of clubs after school which the students can freely participate in. We have a strong Performing Arts faculty who work hard to ensure that a significant number of our students have the opportunity of learning key skills relating to performing. The annual school production is a highlight of our year and is a highly professional experience for both cast, crew and the audience. There are also opportunities for students to travel abroad with the school such as our Year 12 Paris trip. our popular ski trip and we also have an exciting trip to Iceland booked for next vear. In addition we offer an exciting range of residential trips for students such as our Year 7 Bewerley Park.

The school has a strong reputation in the field of science and we work closely with higher education partners and charities such as the Ogden Trust to promote scientific education to all of our students. The school is also part of the Royal Society's Schools' Network which provides us with additional materials from one of the world's most prestigious scientific organisations.







'THERE IS A CALM AND PURPOSEFUL ATMOSPHERE ABOUT THE SCHOOL. PUPILS ARE POLITE AND WELCOMING'



#### **SIXTH FORM**

Our Sixth Form is the only large schoolbased Sixth Form in the west of Leeds with over 250 students studying a wide range of courses. We have invested heavily in our Sixth Form in recent years and this allows us to provide an excellent education to all of our Post 16 students.

We have increased the teaching time allocated to each student by 20%. In addition, we provide a dedicated study space for all of our Post 16 students with support available beyond the end of the school day. We also have a University and College Access Co-ordinator who organises half termly meetings with each student to focus on their goals and ensure that they are on track to achieve them. Our Pastoral Leader provides careers advice and guidance to the students while a Director of Studies is devoted to overseeing the academic progress of all students.

An Enrichment Co-ordinator ensures that students are educated beyond the classroom. Our enrichment falls into the two categories of academic enrichment and pastoral enrichment. Academic enrichment provides students with inspirational talks from experts around the world in a wide range of roles. This year we have been privileged to welcome a plethora of prestigious guests including Richard Bilton (BBC Panorama Journalist), Andrew Greenall (Tribologist at Mercedes AMG High Performance Powertrains) and Lisa Holdsworth (TV and Theatre writer and Vice Chair of the Royal Television Society for Yorkshire) to name but a few.

In addition to this, we will run a Sixth Form cultural trip to Paris which takes place in June each year.







'IN THE SIXTH FORM PUPILS BENEFIT FROM TEACHERS' STRONG SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE AND APPROPRIATE CHALLENGE'















#### PUDSEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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