
Turton School

TURTON SCHOOL **INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS**

INTRODUCTION

Turton is a hugely popular, successful and continuously improving 11-19 high school in the north of Bolton. We have a genuinely comprehensive intake of 1550 students, including 320 in the Sixth Form. In 2017, we received 580 applications for our 270 places in the new Year 7. Turton is an equally popular place to work. This year, we had over 100 applicants for some of the teaching posts advertised.

Turton prides itself on being both an academic and a caring school resulting in high levels of attainment across the full range of subjects. Students consistently achieve well above borough and national averages at both GCSE and A Level. Our continual quest for intellectual excellence and resilience enables many of our students to access top flight universities including Oxbridge.

ETHOS

The Turton Touchstones underpin everything that we do here and inform every aspect of our daily interactions with each other in the Turton family. The Touchstones can be found at the end of this document.

They are:

- Knowledge and Wisdom
- Relatedness
- Community and Belonging
- Creativity and Expression
- Self-awareness
- Seeing the good in others

Trust, resilience and emotional intelligence are at the heart of all our ambitions as a school community. Compassion is the key to the positive relationships which we seek to build within school. We work hard to ensure that there is no place for racism, sexism or any other form of prejudice in school. We celebrate the diversity of our school community and want every member to have a voice. VOL, our student council, our prefects and college ambassadors, our Parents' Association and Governing Body all work closely with us to make every year at Turton better than the one before, in whatever way possible.

PASTORAL CARE

From our feeder primary schools through to university, college or the world of work, our pastoral system and Student Support Centre nurture all our young people and aim to remove any barriers to learning so that everyone, regardless of social or economic advantage or disadvantage, can fulfil their potential. As well as group tutors and pastoral leaders, an excellent team of academic, community and behaviour mentors offer additional guidance, support and stability to all who will benefit and an extensive and dedicated Learning Support team nurture those with special educational needs and disabilities.

CURRICULUM

Our curriculum across all subjects is designed on a 21st Century Trivium. In this way we aim to synthesise a progressive school culture with traditional teaching methods.

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We want to offer every child at Turton the best education possible, working on the premise that the purpose of education is not solely to get a job, it is to help students thrive, to learn how to think, to become wise and learn about life and to understand life so that they can go on to lead a good life, a life of well-being.

KEY STAGE 3

Following the removal of National Curriculum levels, we have thoughtfully re-designed our KS3 curriculum with a focus on the three ways of the Trivium. Each subject has carefully debated and discussed what is required at each key stage, then designed their curriculum in reverse from Year 13 to Year 7. Each year includes a broad and deep educational experience that extends way beyond simply what is required at GCSE.

Assessment in KS3 is predominantly formative, with end of year summative tests that establish whether children are meeting age related expectations or not yet.

The main aim in KS3 is the acquisition of knowledge and skills and the development of a strong work ethic and effective learning habits.

KEY STAGE 4

At GCSE we offer a broad, balanced and academically challenging curriculum which prepares students well for their next steps. Whereas in KS3 embedding the grammar (knowledge) elements of Trivium predominates, in KS4 dialectical teaching which helps students to develop as thinkers and philosophers comes to the fore. Practice and self-discipline help prepare students well for their exams.

KEY STAGE 5

The Sixth Form offers a broad and rich range of A level subjects to our own students who stay on and to the significant number of external students who join us for the college years, as well as BTEC Business and our own Foundation Learning programme, not to mention a world of enrichment and extra-curricular opportunities.

ALL ARE WELCOME

We are an open and collaborative school. Openness, trust, honesty and integrity are essential to the way we work. We encourage all students, staff, parents, governors, neighbours, employers and support agencies to become involved in school life. We seek to be responsive rather than reactive. Students, parents and staff know they can come to talk to us at any time to discuss problems and make suggestions.

Turton is a very hardworking, fast moving and forward thinking school. For those seeking the challenge of providing the very best learning opportunities, while nurturing attitudes of compassion, consideration, independence and resilience in the next generation, Turton is an extremely rewarding place to work.

If you find the Turton Touchstones and the job information which follow of interest and you feel that you would like to come and make a contribution to our future development, then we will be pleased to hear from you.

May we take this opportunity to thank you for your interest and wish you well in this and any future applications.

Best Regards

Sam Gorse
Headteacher

September 2017

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How the Touchstones look in everyday professional practice

Touchstone	Description	Skills
Relatedness	Quality of relationships and how these impact on learning and development; the connectedness of staff and students to our ethos.	Collaboration, influence, empathy and understanding.
Community and Belonging	Shared purpose and collective spirit, safety and a sense of belonging, learning through community service.	Group problem solving, conflict resolution, effective communication, stress management, negotiation and compromise.
Creativity & Expression	Developing character, enabling students to explore talents and skills, to create themselves and express themselves positively.	Curiosity, resilience, risk-taking, imagination, giving and receiving feedback.
Self-awareness	Inter-personal skills and attitudes needed to achieve well-being, personal development and positive relationships.	Social ability, optimism, dignity, negotiating solutions, organising groups.
Seeing the good in others.	Investment in staff and students, developing a professional learning culture.	Trust, respect, compassion, empowering others, collegiality.
Knowledge and wisdom	Developing a love of learning, becoming a good scholar and gaining a deep understanding alongside developing virtue and character.	Independent exploration of knowledge, taking time to practice memorisation, questioning and regular revision.