

## **TURTON SCHOOL** **INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS**

The culture and ethos of Turton School are its abiding strengths. They make Turton an exceptional place to be educated and to educate.

Turton is a popular, successful and continuously developing 11-19 high school in the north of Bolton. We have a genuinely comprehensive intake of 1650 students including 300+ in the Sixth Form. In 2021, we received 634 applications for our 270 places in year 7. Turton is an equally popular place to work with a stable staff body and a good deal of interest in teaching posts advertised.

Students consistently achieve well above borough and national averages at both GCSE and A level. Our continual quest for intellectual excellence and high achievement, enables many of our students to access top-flight universities.

### **CULTURE AND ETHOS**

Turton's ethos is the very essence of our community, it is fundamental. We are a values led school, such that the values inform every aspect of our decision-making, policy-making and daily interactions with each other in the Turton community. Our ethos emanates from our six core values. The pursuit of wisdom, combined with a strong sense of humanity and justice for all, is at the heart of our ambitions for both students and staff.

The culture of Turton is critical, it aligns and galvanises people, ensuring we are all working to the same core purpose and moral imperative.

The purpose of education at Turton is reflected in our school motto: Building on the knowledge of the past to help the children of today meet the challenges of tomorrow.

This requires us to provide a vibrant and nurturing environment, where all children can flourish; to develop the potential of every individual student that comes through our door; to pass on knowledge via our thoughtful, rich curriculum, taught through the three ways of the Trivium; to prepare students for life and work and the development of good character; and to ensure that our students go on to add value to their community and society as a whole.

We constantly challenge our thinking and pride ourselves on an environment of collegiality and professional development for staff. Teachers at Turton work hard, and they work together in a supportive, collaborative atmosphere, where everyone aspires to be their best.

### **PASTORAL CARE**

Compassion is the key to positive relationships and we see this as a guiding principle that underpins all pastoral work.

From our feeder primary schools through to university, college or the world of work, our pastoral system and Student Support Centre nurture our young people and aim to overcome any barriers to learning, such that students can overcome social disadvantage. 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 21<sup>st</sup> Century Trivium. In this way we aim to synthesise a progressive school culture with engaging students in learning the best that has been thought and said.

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 sequenced their curriculum around a cohesive narrative that takes students on an exploration of knowledge and understanding from year 7 through to year 13. 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 both our own students who stay on and external students who join us for the college years. In addition we offer a small number of BTECs and 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 hardworking 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 Values 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  
Head Teacher

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