

Biddulph High School

Conway Road, Knypersley,
Stoke-on-Trent ST8 7AR

Tel: 01782 523977

Fax: 01782 521821

Email: office@biddulph.staffs.sch.uk

Web: www.biddulph.staffs.sch.uk

Headteacher:

Mr S P Ascroft BSc (Hons) NPQH



BIDDULPH HIGH SCHOOL



Prospectus



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Prospectus

WELCOME



The aim of this prospectus is to provide information for students and their parents or carers.

I do hope that you find this to be a useful document. However, I would urge you to come and visit the school and meet the staff and students to see what makes Biddulph High School such a unique place to learn.

Our school has an ethos of care and responsibility; it is a school community that is both thoughtful and harmonious. In May 2013 Ofsted graded the school 'Good - with Outstanding features'.

Parents, students, staff and trustees believe that we have an exceptional school with an excellent record of developing the talents of our students. We set very high standards, encouraging all our students to maximise their potential both academically and through an extensive range of extra-curricular opportunities. Students make outstanding progress during their time at the school.

Situated within the Staffordshire Moorlands, Biddulph High School is easily accessible from the town of Biddulph, the surrounding rural settlements and the northern fringes of Stoke-on-Trent. The vast majority of our students join us from our two main feeder middle schools, James Bateman Junior High School

and Woodhouse Academy but increasingly other students are joining us from Congleton, Leek and Stoke-on-Trent.

We enjoy close working relationships with the Middle and the First schools in the area and through our position as a Teacher Training hub and Leadership centre we develop local and national training programmes for teachers across the County. We believe that these opportunities help to provide our students with a rich and stimulating learning experience.

Within the school major building projects over the past three summers have helped to develop further our contemporary learning environment.

There is a saying that 'while times change, values don't.' We always look towards the future and students are given every opportunity to gain the qualifications and personal skills that an ever changing world of employment requires.

I look forward to meeting you.

Mr S P Ascroft

Headteacher

PASTORAL ENVIRONMENT



Middle School Liaison

Biddulph High School prides itself on providing a fully supportive and structured pastoral environment. The time we invest with our feeder schools not only helps to bridge the transition gap between Middle and High school, but it also lays the foundation for a successful education.

Our relationship with the feeder Middle schools is very close. Biddulph High School staff make regular visits and establish good, early relationships with future students.

At Biddulph High School we are committed to offering an inclusive, broad and balanced curriculum to ensure all students progress to their maximum potential during their time in education. Our provision for students who need additional and specialist support is outstanding. We build on the work done in Year 8 to tailor our curriculum to enhance all learners' life chances and outcomes.

Pastoral Care

Each year group is organised into mixed ability tutor groups for registration and tutorial purposes. Pastoral and Progress issues are managed by Progress Tutors and Key Stage Learning Managers. We operate a House System for competition purposes with events including both sporting and non-sporting extravaganzas.

Relationships between students, staff and parents are excellent. Great care is taken to support students and to address problems which may affect their progress. Student behaviour is exemplary. We believe that central to every student's success is a strong and positive relationship between home and school. Together we set clear expectations and standards in terms of study.

"In lessons students show excellent attitudes to their learning and there is exceptional support and care for vulnerable students." - Ofsted, 2013



Pathways

At Key Stage 3 (Year 9) all students follow courses tailored to suit their individual abilities. Their timetable in this year comprises of the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science. In addition they study Technology, Humanities, German, Art, Music and PE. We also have an additional Literacy group for those who may need extra help. We have a truly comprehensive intake realising the dreams of highly academic Oxbridge students whilst supporting others with life-long learning skills. During this year students are directed towards different pathways of study for Key Stage 4 depending upon their ability, aptitude, potential to progress and future targets.

Our highly effective Guided Pathways process begins in Year 9. Students are guided into the most appropriate route to ensure appropriate course and career choice.

Post-16/BH6

All students have the opportunity to continue their studies at Biddulph High School. New and exclusive Post-16 facilities help to provide a cutting edge learning environment in BH6.

Our flexible learning opportunities allow a broad range of subject combinations for maximum choice.

A full range of A-Level and BTEC courses, with clear entry requirements, ensure that students have the correct pathway. During Year 11, students are provided with extensive information and guidance to support them with these decisions.

A carefully structured and robust structure ensures that students are fully supported in their studies, whilst providing a bridge to the next phase of their lives be it employment, further training or Higher Education. For additional details see the separate Post-16, BH6 prospectus.

“Overall standards at Key Stage 4 have been consistently above the national average for the last three years.” - Ofsted, 2013

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



Students at Biddulph High School benefit from close ties that have been established with local businesses and the wider community.

Our links with the local business community are very strong. These have been fostered through school activities such as extensive work experience which we offer in both Year 10 and Year 12 and also the support offered by companies and individuals in our careers programme.

Consideration of others is of vital importance and this is reflected in the huge commitment of the school to various local and national charities.

We have extensive and modern sporting and drama facilities and these, coupled with our Conference facilities, Lecture Theatre and Dining Hall have allowed the school to become a community hub for activities.

Biddulph High School is well known within the area for its academic, vocational, sporting, musical, art and performing arts achievements. Our school teams regularly win area and regional competitions whilst performers can be seen in a variety of locations including the annually 'sold out' Regent Theatre Inspire Show.

"Students who are courteous and respectful of staff and each other." - Ofsted, 2013



CONTEMPORARY LEARNING ENVIRONMENT



Biddulph High School has enjoyed considerable investment as an Academy which has allowed the school to channel funds to where they are most needed.

This has provided a high level of investment to develop extensive facilities suited for education in the 21st Century. Students have access to all of the following facilities whilst at Biddulph High School:

- An Art Exhibition area
- 3G Multi-purpose Sports Pitch
- Foot Technology and Catering facilities
- Four Court Sports Hall
- Refurbished Lecture Theatre, Technology Area and Dining Hall
- Contemporary Post-16 Social Area and study facility
- ICT Suites
- Specialist Photography Room
- Dance Studio
- Fitness Room



"In lessons teachers make good use of physically active work in groups and pairs to engage students and to encourage them to work independently." - Ofsted, 2013

A SENSE OF BELONGING



"An ethos of service and responsibility among students has created a school community that is both caring and harmonious." - Ofsted, 2013

All new students to Biddulph High School join a tutor group which is a member of one of four Houses.

Through the House system we aim to provide a structure that encourages all students to achieve the best they can, by providing the opportunity to take part in a wide variety of events. These range from quizzes and presentations to sporting activities and assemblies.

Positive attitudes towards learning are rewarded with Merits. Merits are presented in all lessons and

throughout the school day. All Merits count towards an end of term total and presentations are made both to individuals and the House achieving the highest total.

At Biddulph High School 'an ethos of service and responsibility among students has created a school community that is both caring and harmonious' - Ofsted, 2013.

We hope that you will agree with this statement and come to see it happening in practice.