



Hillside High School

Wade Deacon Trust

www.hillsidehigh.co.uk



Welcome ...to Excellence in the Heart of our Community

As Principal I am both proud and delighted to welcome you to Hillside High School. Having children of my own, I appreciate that choosing the right secondary school for your child is one of the most important decisions that you will make and by reading this prospectus, and visiting the school, I hope that you will see why I believe that Hillside High School is the best choice.

The whole team of staff at Hillside is committed to making the best choices for our pupils and to putting them at the fore of everything that we do. Our pupils get one chance at their education and we are determined that they get the very best that we can give.

We strive for the highest possible levels of achievement for all of our pupils. We set the highest standards and will accept only the highest effort and conduct from our pupils. Young people thrive at Hillside and are courteous, friendly and extremely happy during their time at the school.

Hillside High School has been helping the young people of Bootle realise their academic potential and providing them with the skills and values they need for life's journey since 1932 when the school was founded as the Bootle Girls' Grammar School.

We are proud of our place at the centre of the community and want our pupils to leave us as outward-looking and forward-thinking young men and women, ready to take their place in society. We believe in the power and value of education to change lives and change the world.

Hillside High School does indeed have a long and distinguished history but we strongly believe an even more exciting future lies ahead and we hope you'll be part of it.



We expect the highest standards from all our pupils and pride ourselves on forging and maintaining excellent relationships with parents to support this.
Amanda Ryan, Principal



Excellence in Learning

...in the heart of our community

Our standards are the highest and we encourage and support all children to achieve their full potential at Hillside. We do this by placing great emphasis on an orderly and happy working environment where high expectations are the norm. Our lessons are challenging, engaging, exciting and inspiring. Our pupils are fully supported, to make the best progress possible.

We have a highly skilled and dedicated team of teachers at Hillside who keep up to date with latest research in terms of teaching and learning. They plan lessons carefully to meet the needs of individual children and to reflect the needs of our community. They have high expectations and challenge all pupils to achieve their best.

We recognise that each child comes to us with their own unique skills, talent and areas of need.

CHALLENGE

A Hillside pupil will be challenged to become a resourceful and resilient learner. Our teachers are always learning, modifying their approaches and using new technologies as well as using the latest evidence based research – striving to push the pupils’ attainment further. Our pupils are set challenging targets and they are well supported through their time at Hillside to meet them.

SUPPORT

To make exceptional progress, pupils sometimes require additional support. This might be as simple as a teacher helping a child in a lesson, or after school, to master a difficult concept or might require a more complex team of people giving bespoke support where and when needed. We are very fortunate to have a team of Teaching Assistants, and other staff, who actively support the learning of key groups or individuals, depending on need. Where a child has a specific learning need there is a range of additional support provided.

EXPECTATION

We have the highest expectations for all of our pupils and staff in terms of teaching and learning and invest in current and relevant training to make sure that we are giving the very best to the pupils of Hillside.



Achieving Excellence

...in the heart of our community

At the heart of our school philosophy is a belief that all children are individuals with different strengths, skills and aptitudes. It is essential that the curriculum is organised in such a way that it provides all pupils with the opportunity to develop themselves as successful learners; well-prepared and excited about life after Hillside: and that it ensures the values inherent in our “Excellence in the Heart of the Community” ethos become a reality for the pupils.

KEY STAGE 3 (YEARS 7 TO 8)

During the first two years at Hillside (Years 7 to 8) your child will follow KS3 in the following subjects: English Language and Literature, Maths, Science, Spanish, History, Geography, Art, Design Technology, Computer Science, Drama, Music, Religious Studies, Physical Education and Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education and Citizenship.

KEY STAGE 4 (YEARS 9 TO 11)

All pupils study Core subjects of: English Language, English Literature, Maths, Science and either: History, Geography or Spanish, (PE and Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education and Citizenship are taught alongside the examination courses). Through the Options Process pupils choose from a number of subjects in which they will gain either GCSE or equivalent qualifications. The range of courses offered to pupils is reviewed and updated annually and include:

Art & Design, Design and Technology, Computer Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Drama, Dance, Music, Photography, Business Studies, Media Studies, Sport Science, ICT, Religious Studies, Travel and Tourism. Pupils can also opt for History, Geography and Spanish to complement their core offer.





Excellence for your Child

...in the heart of our community

At Hillside we believe that pastoral care is the key to helping all of our pupils to flourish as well-rounded young people with a positive attitude to school and to learning. We see the pastoral care of each pupil as the shared responsibility of every member of staff. We endeavour to ensure that every child is guided into making positive choices with high aspirations for the future, both academically and in terms of: behaviour, health and relationships with others.

OUR TEAM

The Form Tutor is the first point of contact for all pupils and is the person that they meet every morning during registration. The Form Tutor will remain with your child for the five years that they are at the school.

The Pastoral Team is led by an Assistant Vice Principal (Pastoral) and each year group has a dedicated Progress Leader who stays with the year group for their five years at Hillside. The Progress Leaders do not have a teaching role in the school so have the dedicated time to best support the young people in their care in terms of welfare, attendance and behaviour.

We have a dedicated Home School Liaison Team who work closely with families who may need extra support.

Pupil Support is a dedicated area where pupils can go during the school day if they feel unwell, require first aid or need any additional help. Pupil Support also offers help for pupils who may have a medical condition.

REWARDS

We actively seek opportunities to reward excellent academic effort, positive behaviour and excellent attendance. Pupils receive recognition for their achievements in half-termly rewards assemblies and dedicated rewards activities and special events.

PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

We believe that communication between home and the school is of paramount importance and is vital to every child's success and achievement. We encourage parents to be involved with their child's time at Hillside as much as possible, both academically and through supporting the extra-curricular activities. We ask that parents work with the school by ensuring that their child has excellent attendance, is in full uniform and fully equipped, ready for lessons. As a school, we will keep you fully informed of your child's progress and discuss with you honestly, any concerns that arise and celebrate successes and achievements.



Excellence through Enrichment

...in the heart of our community

We believe that it is our duty to celebrate, nurture and develop the skills and talents of our young people. We offer a wide range of opportunities to all pupils and foster a 'have a go' culture to encourage our pupils to try something new and to find new interests.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

There is a wide range of clubs available at Hillside, both before and after school. We have a free Breakfast Club every morning from 8.00 a.m. where pupils can get breakfast, meet friends and play games while listening to music. After school clubs include: Homework club, Computer Club, Art and Design Club, Drama Club, Dance Club, Music Club and a whole range of sporting clubs and activities.

In addition to the clubs, there is also a number of activities that enhance life at school, these include:

- Visits from theatre companies
- Visits to the theatre
- Geography field trips
- Numerous sporting activities
- Visits to universities
- Visits to local colleges
- University science residential visits
- Visits to see speakers on a wide range of topics such as science and mathematics
- Visiting speakers from the world of work
- Visiting authors and artists

SPORT

We strongly believe that sport and fitness should be for everyone, regardless of sporting ability. Our dedicated P.E. lessons include a range of activities including: circuit training, basketball, bench ball, football, cricket, rounders, netball, dance, cross-country and athletics. These lessons develop skills and aptitude for the sport at every level, from absolute beginner to elite athlete. There are also school teams, in a range of sports, who compete successfully across the county and beyond. Every year we have a celebratory sporting festival in which the whole school, and the wider community get involved.

THE ARTS

The creative arts form a vibrant and exciting area of school life. Pupils are encouraged to take part in the performing arts through dance and drama and are regularly given opportunities to perform for the school and the wider community. We have a wide range of extra-curricular clubs and other activities which ensure that pupils can really explore and develop their creativity. We celebrate the creative arts with an annual Arts Showcase which brings together the very best of art and design, drama, dance and music.

Our pupils' natural enthusiasm for making music is developed through dedicated weekly music lessons at Key Stage 3 and through a range of peripatetic music lessons, which are very well attended.





Excellence for your Child's Future ...in the heart of our community

A Hillside High School pupil is a confident, employable and well informed individual who is well prepared for their future and their next steps in our ever changing world.

At Hillside High School, we have the highest aspirations for your child and we are committed to providing high quality, careers guidance which will ensure that they fully understand the range of opportunities available to them.

Linking closely to the school's ethos, "Excellence in the Heart of the Community", a Hillside High School pupil's career journey begins in Year 7, and runs across the five years, with a full programme of guidance with which pupils are supported in making key decisions about their next steps and so have high aspirations at every transition point.

At Hillside High School we recognise the importance of linking careers to subject areas and through our curriculum and extensive extra curricular programme, we aim to give our pupils a wide range of experiences and encounters that will prepare them to make the right choices at key stages in their lives.

Sample of Careers based activities:

- Year 7 and 8 Skills fair
- Year 7 "You're hired" Competition
- Careers Learning within SMSC programme
- Year 8 Apprenticeship Performance
- Year 8 Independent Careers Advice
- Year 9/10/11 Employer Event
- Year 9/10/11 College and University Event
- Year 9 and 10 Business Mentoring with employers
- Year 10 Employment Interviews
- Year 10 Work Experience
- Year 10 / 11 College and University visits
- Year 10 and 11 Independent Careers Advice



Excellence

...in the heart of the community

ADMISSIONS

All applications should be made via the Local Authority using their online application form which can be found online at: www.sefton.gov.uk/admissions along with further advice and guidance.

QUESTIONS & FURTHER INFORMATION

We welcome your comments and suggestions regarding any aspect of school life.

Please feel free to contact the school in the following ways:

TELEPHONE: 0151 525 2630

EMAIL: admin@hillsidehigh.co.uk

ADDRESS:

Hillside High School
Breeze Hill
Bootle
Merseyside
L20 9NU

WEB: www.hillsidehigh.co.uk



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