



CANSFIELD

DEVELOPING POTENTIAL • CELEBRATING SUCCESS



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Welcome to Cansfield

Developing Potential. Celebrating Success

On behalf of the governors and staff, may I warmly welcome you to Cansfield.

Despite all the changes that have occurred in recent years our school has never lost sight of the fact that we exist for our students. They are central to everything we do, at the core of anything that happens in this school. The students matter enormously to me, to the teachers, the non-teachers and we are a family who look after each other.

We want all of our students to have the ambition to achieve whatever they want. We will do everything we can to nurture the aspiration, work-ethic and determination to realise all of this.

Student attainment is impressive and we enjoy an excellent reputation for curriculum excellence, innovation and teaching standards. The teachers in this school care; they are very skilled, very professional and they will never give up on anyone. That translates to the students - they too will never give up, because they are not allowed to.

During their time with us, students move from being children to young adults. We want them to be happy, to enjoy, to come to school with a smile on their faces and to be with friends. Being happy, feeling secure, being cared for and cared about matters to being successful.

We constantly strive to provide an education that enables every student to meet the challenges and seize the opportunities of the 21st century. We want our students to be multi-skilled, adaptable, positive, enthusiastic and able to demonstrate confidence and belief in their abilities. Equally we want students to develop compassion, care, tolerance and respect for themselves and towards others. We are proud of our achievements so far, while our future ambitions for students remain fierce and undiminished. We believe that the next few years will be quite spectacular.

Please take the time to read more about what makes Cansfield special. If you have any further questions, please contact us for further information or a personal guided tour. I look forward to meeting you.

M. Southworth
Headteacher



“Students’ attainment has improved year on year.”



“We are pleased with the standard of teaching. It appears our child will be challenged to continually improve.”
- Parent

Our vision:
To be recognised as a school committed to excellence by focussing on the development of individual strengths and skills. We strive to provide an environment in which every individual is cared for morally, intellectually, physically, socially and emotionally and can fulfil their academic, sporting and personal potential.

- To prepare students to live and work with others, respecting authority and their environment, and enabling them to be responsible, successful members of the community.
- To enable students to develop the attitudes and knowledge appropriate for the world of work, further study, and leisure.
- To foster students’ attitudes, adaptabilities and applications, encouraging acquisition of further knowledge, skills and experience.
- To promote self-esteem, respect for others, and tolerance of people who are different or have different opinions.

Our aims:

- To offer a happy, caring environment which values positive achievement and provides a disciplined working environment.
- To enable all students to acquire literacy, numeracy, oracy and graphicacy skills.
- To provide a broad, balanced curriculum which challenges and stretches every student to the limits of their abilities.
- To stimulate students’ imagination, curiosity, aesthetic sensitivity and independent learning.

Our motto:
‘We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit’.

“Students are happy to come to school, expressing confidence in their teachers.”

Ofsted
raising standards
improving lives



“Teaching is excellent, delivered by by a committed and hardworking team.”

- Parent



Learning at Cansfield

A challenging curriculum

Years 7-9 (Key Stage 3)

Students aged 11-14 study the core subjects, comprising English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Technology, Art, Music, PE, ICT, RE, Drama, French and/or German, plus a Personal Development Programme. The learning process often draws aspects of two subjects together, encouraging cross-learning and enabling students to transfer their skills.

Years 10-11 (Key Stage 4)

In GCSE years, the core curriculum consists of English, Mathematics, Science, RE and PE. An option system allows students to select further subjects, while additional vocational courses are available through our links with Wigan and Leigh College and the Western Skills Centre. Students also follow a Personal Development Programme.

Our curriculum is designed to give every student the opportunity to succeed within a caring and disciplined environment.

Specialist College status also impacts on the wider community. Pre-school and primary children, and a variety of community groups and partner secondary schools have access to our expertise, resources and facilities, promoting a fuller understanding of community, national and global diversity.

Outstanding facilities

We have purpose built accommodation for Languages, Music, Drama and Technology, as well as lively specialist Art rooms, Science laboratories, an ultra-modern Dining room and a Learning Resource Centre.

Over the next 12 months we are to benefit from a £2.6 million build to improve our outside sporting facilities and to provide extra teaching spaces to accommodate all of the students who now want to come to Cansfield.

Facilities also include extensive ICT provision, both in specialist rooms and through interactive whiteboards and wireless laptops in all classrooms. Cansfield has good sporting facilities, including an all-weather pitch and sports hall, shared with Ashton Leisure Centre, as well as use of a swimming pool.

“Students speak highly of the many enrichment activities on offer.”



The Cansfield Community

We are committed to providing a secure, caring environment where students can develop as individuals; feel valued and become responsible young adults.

Smooth transition

We aim to make the transition from primary to secondary school as smooth as possible, with staff visiting local primary schools to learn about upcoming students, while parents and students have the opportunity to meet us at our October Open Evening. To help students settle in quickly, most of their first morning at Cansfield is spent with their Form Tutor, who will introduce them to the daily routine and timetable of the school. Senior prefects will escort students to their lessons throughout their first week.

In partnership with parents

We believe that open, honest dialogue between school and parents helps students succeed. Parental participation in students' education is essential and we inform parents of students' progress by:

- Enabling parents to meet students' subject teachers during Parents' Evenings.
- Teachers' use of Screening Sheets, outlining areas of success and/or concern regarding students' work or behaviour.
- Annual Records of Achievement highlighting students' accomplishments.

We are always happy to discuss any views or concerns that parents or students may have.

A sense of responsibility

We expect student behaviour to be a credit to themselves, their parents and the school, as we believe that an ordered, disciplined atmosphere is the best learning environment. All students are encouraged to maintain high standards of appearance and to develop a sense of responsibility for themselves, for others and for the community in which they live and work. Year 11 students are given the opportunity to become prefects, performing tasks that contribute to the good order of the school.

A supportive environment

Each year is divided into Form groups who meet daily. The Form is a very special group for us as during Form time, teacher and students discuss our values and beliefs; learn of local and national events; celebrate individual achievements and discuss ways to support each other with learning or wider-school issues.

The Forms meet regularly as a year group, to nurture a strong sense of community and belonging, and to celebrate success, effort and achievement.



“The school provides an orderly, welcoming environment, entirely conducive to learning.”



“Staff and students show respect for one another and there is a tangible sense of pride and ambition throughout the school.”



Developing Potential

Achieving success

At Cansfield, we are committed to developing each individual student and encouraging them to reach their full potential. Students are set achievement targets in every subject and are given the support and guidance to help achieve them. Each student's progress is constantly monitored and regular assessments in all subjects confirm attainment levels, which are regularly reported to parents.

Learning support

We believe in entitlement for all students and strive to meet the particular learning needs of each individual by offering equal opportunities and access to a broad, balanced curriculum.

Paired reading schemes, exam support, lunchtime clubs and a summer school help many students to reach their full potential. Students who need additional support are given specialist help in lessons where appropriate, and may attend literacy and numeracy booster classes.

Extended learning

Homework is set regularly and is integral to every student's success. Year 7 students receive two or three homework tasks per night of approximately 20-30 minutes each, increasing as students move up the school.

Homework may be written, research, preparation, learning, reading or project work, and the Learning Resource Centre is open at lunchtimes and after school to help students complete it. An after-school Homework Club also provides extra support.

The school also supports students who are very able in one or more areas, whether academic or otherwise, through opportunities such as university placements, gifted and talented initiatives, specialist sports and arts opportunities.



“Caring and disciplined environment where students feel valued as individuals.”

- Parent





Providing Opportunities

Extra-curricular opportunities

Cansfield places great value on students' overall development, as well as their academic progress, so we provide many activities to enrich our formal curriculum.

We run a Breakfast Club, plus a range of sporting, dramatic and academic activities, together with the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. Concerts and talent showcases are also regular events.

Subject departments arrange visits to Germany and France, ski trips, visits to the theatre and Chester Zoo, an in-school programme of visiting poets and drama groups and a Language Arts Day.

We encourage students to take full advantage of the wide range of opportunities on offer.

Going further

We offer careers education with the support of the National Careers Service, providing quality guidance and support. During Key Stage 4, students participate in work experience to help them prepare for the challenges of employment.

We enjoy excellent Further Education links, playing host to visiting speakers and providing taster days to help students make informed decisions about their futures.

A growing number of students choose to progress to Post-16 education, and we are delighted that so many secure university places.



“Students demonstrate a high level of respect for one another and their teachers.”



“We feel supported and encouraged so that we develop independence and confidence to fulfil our potential.”

- Student



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