

The Halifax Academy

Primary Admissions 2021





Welcome to The Halifax Academy Primary

I am extremely proud to be the Headteacher of the Primary Phase of our 4-16 academy.

Over the last six years we have made tremendous progress in establishing our academy as the school of choice for families. We moved into our newly purpose built school building in February 2016 which provides us with a fantastic learning environment, both inside and out.

At The Halifax Academy we are constantly working to improve life chances and create

social mobility opportunities for our children, by encouraging them to think deeper and push their abilities to the limits.

The best way to experience what we have to offer you and your child is to come and visit us and see for yourself all that is available.

Please feel free to contact the school to arrange a visit or if you have any questions by calling 01422 430480. We look forward to working with you.

Mr Richard Shaw

The Curriculum

Our school curriculum involves activities and experiences to ignite children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning and where possible, responds to their own interests. We aim to develop a real love of learning and enable all children to be successful and confident, providing extensive opportunities for them to work both collaboratively and independently. We bring the curriculum to life by providing lots of first hand experiences through visits and visitors into school.

We take great pride in preparing our pupils for life in our multi-cultural society. They learn about the beliefs, customs and celebrations of different religions and cultures, along with developing the values to help them become good citizens of modern Britain.



Learning at home

We value the high levels of support from parents and encourage them to support learning at home through homework. This not only helps the children to make great progress, but shows them how we are all working together and ensures that parents know what their child has been learning in school.

Our learning environment

We are very fortunate to have a new purpose built Primary building, which provides a stimulating and safe place for children to learn. The well-resourced building has large airy classrooms and shared learning spaces such as our library, two halls, computer suite and children's kitchen. Our children have daily access (except in extreme weather) to our secure outdoor area, complete with a large mud kitchen and sandpit.

The school day

Learning starts bright and early at our school, with before school care at our 'Early Bird Club' starting at 8am. The doors then open at 8.25am ready for school to start at 8.30am. School closes at 2.45pm Monday to Thursday, with an earlier finish similar to the Secondary students on Friday at 1.15pm.



Uniform

Our pupils are very proud of their school uniform and take great pride in looking smart for school. The purple sweatshirts and cardigans represent a blend of the three House colours. Full details of our uniform are available on our website and will be provided in the information for new children during the summer term.

Keeping safe and staying healthy

Safeguarding has the highest priority throughout our school and there are a wide range of safeguarding measures in place. These include the careful management of pupils and students between the Primary and Secondary phases, which enables our pupils to benefit from having appropriate opportunities to extend their learning in a safe and controlled way.

Children learn how to keep themselves safe, for example learning about road safety and internet or e-safety. We provide all children with a healthy snack through the School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme and we also provide a drink of milk. Children are encouraged to drink frequently and should bring their water bottle every day. Water is also provided at lunchtime.

Our school meals are cooked freshly every day on the school site and meet the national nutritional standards. Parents and carers are welcome to visit and try a lunch and there is an opportunity for new children to come and have a lunch with their parents in the summer term. All pupils in Reception and Key Stage 1 are eligible for a free meal through the government's Universal Free School Meal policy.

Working together

We aim to keep parents and carers well informed about what is happening in school and about the progress their children are making. We have a regular newsletter; we publish half-termly curriculum information; school meal menus are sent home each half term and we also use a texting service to keep in touch. Our website contains lots of information for parents.

Our staff are available at the school entrance at the start and end of the day and we also invite all parents and carers to work with their child in the classroom during family learning sessions. Parents are invited to join us for our Achievement Assembly each Friday morning. We encourage parents to comment about achievements at home and also have three parents' evenings throughout the year, along with written progress reports each term. We use an online Learning Journey for our pupils in Reception so you can have secure access at any time to see how well your child is progressing.

Behaviour

All children will be allocated to one of our three Houses: Auriga (pale blue), Orion (red) and Pegasus (dark blue). The House system is a very important part of our work to develop children's pride and self-confidence and helps them to manage their behaviour in a very positive way. We celebrate success each week with a House Champion trophy awarded to the House with the most points and award certificates presented to individual pupils.

The school works hard to ensure all children understand how to stay safe from bullying, and our pupils tell us they feel safe and happy at their school.

Attendance

Attendance at our school is excellent because children want to be here and parents understand the importance of children being at school every day, unless they are ill. We celebrate good attendance with a weekly trophy and also termly awards.





Admissions process

Calderdale Council is the admissions authority and applications must be made by completing the form online at: www.calderdale.gov.uk/education/schools/admissions

Full details of the admissions procedure are in the Primary schools admissions booklet which is available on the Calderdale Council website. The admissions team can be contacted by telephone: 01422 392617 or by email: cyps.admissions@calderdale.gov.uk

We will have a range of events during the summer term for parents, carers and children to prepare for the start of school and full details will be provided once the offers of places have been made.

Closing date for applications: **Friday 15 January 2021**



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