

# STOCKSBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL



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— This is Just the Start —

## Admissions to Stocksbridge High School September 2021

<b>Responsibility</b>	N Layland
<b>Last review date</b>	September 2021
<b>Next review date</b>	September 2022
<b>Approved by</b>	A Ireland
<b>Approved date</b>	September 2021

## **Introduction**

Stocksbridge High School has a responsibility to cater for parental choice up to the physical capacity of the school. The Local Governing Body has confirmed that the published admission number (PAN) is 180. When considering the number of students in a year group, the Local Governing Body equally has a duty to ensure that the education of all students in the school takes place as safely and effectively as possible in circumstances that are conducive to success.

In September 2019, in order to support Local Authority, Stocksbridge High School agreed to go above PAN. These students are now in year 9 and the number on roll for this year group is now at 178. This makes it our largest year group however we are no longer above allocation for that year group or any others. As a school we are excited and optimistic to see our number of students on roll increase as we make the journey to good and outstanding together.

## **The school history**

Stocksbridge High School is a community school located in the heart of Stocksbridge approximately 10 miles north of Sheffield. It serves a predominantly economically active white, British community. The number of students on roll entitled to free school meals has risen from 16% in 2019 to 25% in 2021, a 5% increase on last year's number.

In December 2017 Stocksbridge High School became part of the Minerva Learning Trust. The Multi Academy Trust encompasses three other secondary schools across the city: Handsworth Grange Community Sports College, Ecclesfield and High Storrs, in addition to it Chapeltown Academy, a post 16 provider, and Woodthorpe Primary school. By being a part of the trust, we are able to work with colleagues across the city collaboratively to the benefit of young people.

The majority of our students transition from one of our two main feeder schools: Stocksbridge Junior school and Deepcar St Johns. However, we also have a number of students from outside of catchment who have made Stocksbridge High school their school of choice. We have a stable and supportive parent, student and governing body. The summer teacher assessed grades for Y11 students in August 2021 saw yet another improvement with school results which are now above national average. We are delighted with the year on year improvement of the school and recognise that these achievements are testament to the hard work of staff, students and families alike who collaborate closely to raise standards, aspiration and the life chances of our young people.

The school is on an exciting yet challenging journey of change. In September 2016 it was judged by OFSTED to require improvement. The report signalled that the school is improving and it recognised the school has a climate of respect and that relationships between pupils and adults is strong. It is important to recognise that this was the school's second requires improvement judgement and as such the school has worked tirelessly to drive the rapid improvements needed to ensure our students continue to make (at least) the national level of progress.

## **The Current School Context**

The school has seen an increase in the number of students joining Stocksbridge who are eligible for free school meals and those that are identified with additional needs and disabilities. As each year group moves through school there is increasing pressure to continue to close the gap in learning and to fully prepare students for the next stage of their learning.

## Context of School (current MIS data September 2021)

- Number on roll: 799
- 100% Staying in employment and education
- 25% Free school meal
- 30% Pupil premium
- 22% SEND status
- 9 Looked after Children
- 7 Service children

## Standard Number and Admissions Limit

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	All
No on Roll (PAN 179)	159	156	178	157	149	799
Pupil premium	36%	33%	25%	34%	22%	30%
Looked after	2	0	6	1	0	9
SEND Need	TBC	32%	24%	41%	33%	26%
SEND status	28%	28%	16%	15%	12%	20%
EHCP	4	2	4	1	0	11

Over the last few years the school has seen an increase in the numbers of SEND students and students with complex need. In order to ensure that the students with SEND are well supported we have a specialist provision called 'Paragon' which is facilitated by the SENCO team and teaching assistants. All are staff receive regular and ongoing training on teaching and learning strategies needed to differentiate for SEND learners. Additionally, we work across sector with organisation such as Think For The future, Mind Apart and Healthy Minds to ensure that we are supporting all our learners with their mental health, well-being and personal development.

Throughout the pandemic we have maintained a full and balanced curriculum for all our students in KS3 & KS4. The success of which can be seen in our centre assessed grades in 2020 and teacher assessed grades in 2021. We mitigated against lost learning in lockdown by providing live lessons and on-line lessons consecutively. Students and families are actively encouraged to access this whenever a child is out of education for a day or more

We have a highly skilled and experienced team of safeguarding leads, pastoral support staff and attendance officers who ensure the social, emotional and mental health needs of our students are met. This includes liaising with external service providers when needed.

## Accommodation and Curriculum

Stocksbridge High school is a well maintained and purposeful learning environment. It has designated spaces for all specialist subjects including science labs, design and technology spaces and performance rooms. We also have ICT suites that enable computing to be studied through to year 11. We are fortunate that we have large outdoor spaces for the students to use at social times including multi use games areas.

We deliver a broad and balanced timetable at key stage 3 and 4 that meets the demands of the national curriculum. We are delighted that this year we have seen a sharp increase in the number of students opting for a language at GCSE with almost 45% of students studying a language. We have also been able to reintroduce music in the curriculum placing the arts at the heart of learning.

In many subjects we teach in ability groups (sets). This means that for our less able learners and for students who have additional and often complex need we can reduce the class size and limit the teacher student ratio. This enables the students to get the increased level of support that they need and deserve from the teacher.

### **Summary**

We welcome and are encouraged by the increasing number of parents and students choosing Stocksbridge High School as their preferred school. It reflects community demand and an understanding of the effective changes taking place to become an outstanding school. We encourage families and potential students to visit the school to see first-hand what a welcoming and close community we are at Stocksbridge High School. We have Y5 and Y6 open evening and activities calendared throughout the year and our staff and students also visit the primary schools to build relationships and help with transition. Please contact the main office to make an appointment for an informal visit if you would like an opportunity to visit the school outside of these scheduled visits. We look forward to welcoming you very soon.

Naomi Layland  
Deputy Headteacher