

2019 Prospectus  
Atherton Community School



ATHERTON  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL



## Welcome to Atherton Community School

Atherton Community School is committed to providing our students with a world class education together with a strong sense of Christian values. We aim to equip our students to be successful, considerate and caring members of society.

Atherton Community School is a unique and forward thinking school which encourages its learners to be ambitious and aim high. We are dedicated to offering a broad and challenging education with a curriculum that is designed to suit the needs of all our children. Our curriculum follows the National Curriculum and blends knowledge and content from KS4 into KS3.

As well as high academic expectations underpinning all that we do at Atherton Community School is our strong ethos of Grace, Love and Fellowship. Our staff, parents and learners are seen as a family and treat each other as such.

**V Povey**  
Executive Headteacher

At Atherton Community School we firmly believe in seeing every student as a complete picture, therefore we heavily invest in our extra curricular activities and enrichment programme.

In order to prepare our learners for the wider world, we must invest in the development of important life skills and talents outside of the classroom. We therefore allocate specific times of the school week for enrichment opportunities and we run regular cultural trips abroad to ensure a rounded education is provided.

Thank you for taking the time to read Atherton Community Schools prospectus. I hope it gives you a flavour of our school and demonstrated the passion and commitment we have to our learners.

**B Layzell**  
Head of School



# GRACE

## Challenging and Engaging Learning

### Our Curriculum

Our curriculum, whilst being unique to us, covers all the key elements recommended in the National Curriculum framework. Our curriculum model in years 7 and 8 is a different model to that in years 9, 10 and 11.

In year 7 and 8, our students study a broad and balanced curriculum, in year 9 our students choose their GCSE options and their subjects become more relevant to the pathway that each student wishes to follow.

Although we are a deliberately smaller school, this does not limit our curriculum whatsoever, we offer the complete range of GCSE's and some vocational subjects to our learners in order to give the breadth of choice for their future careers.

### Careers, Information and Guidance

From year 7, our learners have bespoke careers guidance and support. We have a dedicated member of staff who oversees this support and guides each student individually to ensure that by the time they leave Atherton Community School, they are enrolled onto suitable courses or pathways that will allow them to be as successful as possible in the future.

### Creative Learning

Our students are fully equipped to become independent lifelong learners using a wide variety of teaching and learning methods within lessons which cater for the individual needs of each student.

All of our students are fully integrated into the curriculum and are given the appropriate levels of challenge and support. We ensure that our Gifted and Able students are encouraged and self-motivated to achieve their true potential by means of curriculum pathways and other opportunities.

Our school values the contribution that homework makes to students' achievement and all of our students are expected to complete homework on time and to the best of their ability.

Teachers at Atherton Community School work tirelessly to ensure that lessons are outstanding and that students understand what they need to do to make progress. Lessons employ the use of innovative teaching and learning strategies and are rigorously planned to ensure accelerated progress by all is made.



LOVE



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### Transition

The transition from primary school to secondary school is an exciting time, it can also be a concerning time for students and families. At Atherton Community School, we aim to make this a happy time by helping to make our new pupils feel welcome, secure and confident. We ensure families have all the information they need to make a smooth transition.

Good preparation can help alleviate transfer difficulties. In year 7, we have a specialist team of form tutors who have been selected based on their specific nurturing qualities and ability to establish standards and routines early.

Each year there are transition days and a summer school. The aim of these is to allow our new student to become familiar with the new environment and routines, as well as experiencing taster lessons in a wide range of subjects. We also hold new intake evenings and coffee mornings to discuss any queries you might have.

### Community and Charity

Giving something back to the community is something close to our hearts here at Atherton Community. We want to ensure that all of our learners leave with a sound understanding of what it means to be a good citizen in today's society.

Part of our community work involves raising money and awareness of charities. Through our 'grow a pound' challenge, our learners are set the challenge of using £1.00 to raise as much money for our annual chosen charity as possible.

### Reading

At Atherton Community School, we believe that the key to unlocking opportunity and success in our learning, is through strong reading skills. Part of everyday involves reading. Sometimes this will be guided reading with their form tutors, or independent reading of a book of their choice.

We also encourage our families and carers to read with their children as much as possible and we provide workshops for parents and families who would like to learn more strategies to help their children in our quest to become outstanding readers.



# FELLOWSHIP



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**T:** 01942 88 55 00  
**E:** [enquiries@atherton-cs.org](mailto:enquiries@atherton-cs.org)  
**W:** [AthertonCommunitySchool.com](http://AthertonCommunitySchool.com)

Atherton Community School is part  
of the Chapel St family of schools

