# Hope Valley College **Prospectus**





Cherus Education Trust

### Welcome to Hope Valley College

As the Principal of Hope Valley College, I am committed to building on the strong foundations of the school, to ensure every student experiences an outstanding education.

The ethos of Hope Valley is clear: the very best teaching in and out of the classroom, the very best facilities and experiences, so that our students can grasp opportunities, make the most of their abilities and unlock the doors to their futures.

Central to our approach are our high expectations and student-focused environment. These are made possible by our experienced, caring staff, within a school that is small enough for every student to be known by name. We'd love the opportunity to show you more of Hope Valley College, so please visit our website for more information or to contact us to arrange a visit. I look forward to meeting you soon.

Mrs Gaynor Jones Principal of Hope Valley College

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### **Being part of Chorus Education Trust**

In 2019, Hope Valley College officially joined Chorus Education Trust, a growing multi-academy trust that was founded by Silverdale School in Sheffield.

Hope Valley College continues to enjoy the extra resources and expertise within Chorus Education Trust and is now firmly embedded in the work of the whole Trust. Our staff benefit by working with colleagues at the other schools. Chorus also runs the South Yorkshire Teaching Hub, the Sheffield Teacher Training Alliance and the National Modern Languages SCITT, providing us with access to additional excellent training and resources.

Students continue to enjoy enhanced facilities through a programme of improvements that has included classroom refurbishment, technology upgrades and ongoing investment across the whole of our beautiful site. Young people at Hope Valley College are benefitting from the wider range of teaching expertise that comes from being a part of a larger educational community.

Our students also gain priority access to Silverdale Sixth Form, which regularly achieves the highest A-level results in Sheffield and is among the top 1% of A-level providers in the country.

Chorus Education Trust and Hope Valley College share the same ethos. We are all deeply ambitious for our students and have high expectations of their behaviour, academic excellence and access to personal development opportunities. Together, we are going from strength to strength.



## A broad and balanced curriculum

We are proud to offer a broad and balanced curriculum, which combines academic, creative and vocational subjects. Our curriculum aims to provide every student with the opportunity to succeed academically and to continue to be inquisitive, lifelong learners.

Students in key stage 3 (Years 7-9) study a broad range of subjects: English, maths, science (including biology, chemistry and physics), PE, art, design and technology (including resistant materials, systems and control, textiles design, and food), ICT and computer science, drama, music, languages (including French, German and Spanish), history, geography, world view (including RE and philosophy) and personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE).

Key stage 4 students are supported in making their choice of subjects to study for GCSE and vocational exams. In addition to the subjects with which they are familiar from their earlier years, they can also choose from subjects such as engineering and hospitality and catering.

### One of the best performing schools in Derbyshire

Student outcomes in recent years have been strong. Hope Valley students consistently achieve results that place them amongst the top performing schools in Derbyshire.

#### Preparing for the next step

At Hope Valley, we help our students to acquire the skills and knowledge to progress to a wide range of destinations.

The vast majority of our students go on to further their education. 51% of them do this at sixth form and move on to renowned sixth forms in the surrounding area including Silverdale School in Sheffield, Lady Manners School in Bakewell and Aquinas College in Stockport.

38% of Hope Valley students gain places at colleges where they study A-level and vocational courses at level 3. Destinations have in the past included Cheadle and Marple Sixth Form College in Cheadle Hulme, Buxton and Leek College and Sheffield College. In addition, a number of our students also progress to agricultural colleges such as Reaseheath in Nantwich and Askham Bryan College in York.

Every year we also support students who go on to gain apprenticeships in a host of different careers.

Whatever a student's chosen path – even if they are not sure what their next step should be – we work hard to help them make a choice that is right for them. We then support them in achieving the results they need to progress to their next step.



## School life that goes beyond the classroom

Our staff are passionate about providing our students with unique experiences that broaden their horizons. We are proud of the number of trips, visits and experiences we can make available to our students.

Some of our enrichment activities are core to our curriculum, such as our outdoor education programme. But our school life extends well beyond the classroom, incorporating a wide range of clubs and lots of trips and visits.

Around 40% of our students have an individual music lesson with a peripatetic teacher that takes place in school time. Students can also enjoy a wide range of traditional and contemporary sporting activities. Our location lends itself to opportunities for climbing, bouldering and cross country, and all students have access to the school's own bike pump track. We are embedded in the local community, working in partnership on events such as heart screenings. Our students are proud to keep local traditions alive when they design and create the school well dressing that is displayed as part of Hope Wakes Week.

Our annual activities week, during which students take part in a wide range of enrichment activities is a highlight of the school calendar. These activities are designed to educate, develop, and build our school community. They might include circus skills, residential trips to activity centres, day trips to places of interest such as Bolsover Castle and the Yorkshire Sculpture Park and sessions at school from specialist providers such as the Problem Solving Company.

Nothing is too much trouble. The school makes sure that the children don't miss out on anything. Anything they can possibly help with, they will. Fabulous school! Parent of a Hope Valley College student



### No one left behind

When students join Hope Valley, they join a school community that will support them throughout their education.

We go to great lengths to ensure everyone is included and has the opportunity to excel. We have pastoral staff dedicated to supporting students with any issues they may have. Our supportive ethos extends into our teaching. We want our students to have a love of learning, so our teaching aims to be inspiring and inclusive, supporting the progress of all students.

#### Small enough for every student to shine

We embrace the opportunities that being a smaller school offers. We provide a supportive, student focused environment that balances high expectations with a nurturing approach.

Young people themselves have a voice at Hope Valley College. The Student Council can influence the decisions made that impact day to day life at the school. Students on the Council have engaged in meetings with, amongst others, the Catering Team and a local MP.

Hope Valley College helped my daughter in so many ways. Not only did she achieve results that have opened so many doors for her, the college's caring and warm environment helped her to develop socially and really find her talents and interests. It is a fantastic place. Parent of former student



## A stunning location with excellent facilities



Over the last five years, we have continued to invest in our facilities to provide a learning environment of which we are proud. With the help of Chorus, and of our supportive Parent, Teacher and Friends' Association, we have been updating facilities across the school, both internally and externally, including a new pastoral area, a bright and cheery canteen (which serves food that is loved by our students and staff!) and a calm, comfortable and well stocked library.

Our classrooms are undergoing a programme of refurbishment and students' access to technology through an updated IT network, improved online resources and interactive screens is supporting their learning and their enjoyment of learning.

We are lucky to be nestled in the heart of the Peak District, whilst being easily accessible by bus. We make the most of our location; it enables us to include outdoor activities in our curriculum and to provide a wide range of extracurricular and enrichment activities that take advantage of the countryside on our doorstep.



### Find out more about joining Hope Valley College

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### Cherus Education Trust















