



Sandbach School

Opportunity, Achievement, Excellence

Welcome to Sandbach School

Sarah Burns, Headteacher, says...

I'm very proud to be Headteacher of Sandbach School and am delighted that you are considering our wonderful school for your son.



Continuity of education

The school was founded in 1677, and has occupied its site near the centre of Sandbach since 1851. We blend traditional approaches to education with innovation and creativity.

Motto

The school motto 'Ut Severis Seges' means 'as you sow, so shall you reap', and is exemplified by our students in so many different ways. Our calm and purposeful environment, dedicated teaching and support staff, and high standards, support students in reaping these rewards. Please read the pupil and parent case studies within this prospectus to see the wide range of fantastic outcomes. We produce confident, capable young men, and these studies demonstrate that.

Parent partnership

The studies also demonstrate how good home-school communication is fundamental to maximising the potential of our students.

Catering for the whole student

I passionately believe in catering for the whole student and supporting them in developing their own talents and passions. We want to help produce independent, individual and talented young men.

Arts and sport

Our specialism in the Arts and Sport permeates everything we do, and further helps students to achieve and excel in many different areas of school life. It also enriches the curriculum and the students' experience of our school.

Get in touch

The staff and governors are very proud of our students and our school. We pride ourselves on not only being a learning environment, but a community that works as a team, and one that I hope you and your son will be proud to be a part of.

Visits are available all year round. You will have a tour of the school by either a senior pupil or a senior member of staff and an opportunity to ask questions. Boys are welcome to attend with their parents. Visits usually take about an hour.

To make an appointment please email enquiries@sandbachschool.org or visit <http://sandbachschool.org/contact-us/visit-the-school> or call the school office on 01270 758870.

Sandbach School seeks to provide the highest quality learning and achievement for all boys, ensuring that our students develop as creative, responsible individuals building on outstanding experiences in the classroom and in extra-curricular provision.



Lorraine believes that Sandbach School is the only one that could provide her sons with just the right **work/life balance** she was looking for

Lorraine and Derek Myers live in Sandbach with their sons Jack, 18 and Harry, 16.



Weighing up the options

Lorraine and Derek were open-minded when it came to choosing a secondary school for their sons. They had considered several options before making their eventual choice, including mixed-sex settings, as well as considering private, but it was Sandbach that ticked most of their boxes. "What we have found over the years is that the general feeling we had about Sandbach at the start has been reinforced in many ways," says Lorraine. "Although Jack and Harry have had different experiences there, they are positive ones and we have had no cause to regret our decision."

Wide-ranging opportunities

Whilst first impressions may mean a lot, Lorraine believes it is important to look beyond these to the educational provision offered. "The school building itself is very beautiful and imposing, but what we appreciate more is the forward-thinking and enriching ethos behind the physical facade. This is a school where learners are given wide-ranging opportunities should they wish to take them, and where their skills and talents are nurtured. It seems to bring out the best in the boys, even demonstrating that they might have gifts they were not aware of themselves."

Nurture and encouragement

This is certainly true in Harry's case as he is an active member of the Swimming Team, the Brass Band and the Theatre Group, as well as making the most of various additional study clubs to keep his classwork up to scratch. "This year he will be playing saxophone at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival as well as performing and also spending three weeks in New Zealand with the Theatre Group; those are amazing opportunities for someone his age. We are so impressed with the way the school places so much emphasis on extra-curricular subjects and is pro-active in encouraging the boys to take part."

A wider social circle

Sandbach School also offers its students the invaluable chance to widen their social circle due to its catchment areas and this is something Lorraine thoroughly endorses. "To be fair, it took both Jack and Harry a little while to settle completely when they joined in Year 7, but that was because they were used to a familiar, local and mixed-sex primary. It didn't take long for either of them to make new, good friends alongside the ones they were already acquainted with and for me that is another major bonus."

More than just a pretty face

Although Jack has made the decision to continue his studies at a college, his overall progression was very positive, says Lorraine, and that was why she and Derek felt Sandbach School to be the right place for Harry, too. As far as Lorraine is concerned, Sandbach School offers precisely the right work/life balance that she wanted for her sons: a solid academic education together with the promotion of individual talent, alongside a peer group that reflects the world they are growing up in. "I don't believe they would have had any better opportunities than the ones Sandbach has offered anywhere else and as a teacher myself, I know what I am looking for," she says. "Sandbach School is more than just a pretty face; it is expanding, moving forward and striving to improve all the time."

Harry says:

"Throughout my five years at Sandbach School I have developed both in confidence and academically. The opportunities that have been offered to me have supported my social life and have enhanced my knowledge on subjects that I hope to pursue. They are even more enjoyable and have been helped along as many of the activities I take part in are alongside boys who I am very good friends with. I can't wait to enter the 6th form and to push myself further, enabling me to take advantage of anything more that the school has to offer in my final years at Sandbach School. Hopefully, what I have taken advantage of throughout my school life so far will help me to achieve a place on the 'Head Boy Team' or even Head Boy."



"The school building itself is very beautiful and imposing but what we appreciate more is the forward-thinking and enriching ethos behind the physical facade."

Opportunity

Outside the classroom

Our students often achieve more than they ever thought possible. For example, our students frequently visit abroad, becoming world citizens and experience learning in a global context.

Extra-curricular

To further extend the opportunities available to our students we offer an extensive list of extra-curricular activities that include:

- Sport
 - Performing arts
 - Music
 - Combined Cadet Force
 - Science
- Languages
 - Reading
 - Technology
 - Film Club
 - Eco Club



Leadership

These extra-curricular opportunities plus the House system and associated events provides a huge number of opportunities for our students to develop as leaders. Leadership positions include Sports Captaincy, Sports Coaching, House Captains, Student Librarians, the Senate and Representatives (our student council), Sum and Reading Buddies, Prefects and the Head Boy Team to name just a few.



"The range of extra-curricular activities is outstanding. These contribute very well to students becoming well-rounded individuals" Ofsted 2014

So many options but only one choice: Sandbach School has given Ruth's boys every opportunity she could have hoped for

Ruth and Kevin Egerton live in Middlewich and have three sons. Josh, 14 and Ollie, 12, attend Sandbach School, and nine-year-old Will will join them there in three year's time.



Almost a foregone conclusion

It can be difficult to put a finger on exactly what appeals to a parent or to a child about a particular school but in the Egerton's case it was Josh who had the casting vote. "We looked at quite a few possibilities and liked several of the options open to us," Ruth says. "In the end, Kevin and I both had a gut feeling about Sandbach and Josh's eyes popped out of his head when he saw the swimming pool so that was it – decision made! Josh has been swimming competitively since he was about eight and we felt he should follow his heart to Sandbach School."

Living up to expectations

Having visited the school on a couple of occasions prior to making their final choice, Ruth, Josh and his brothers all liked what they saw. "We felt very welcomed by the staff and by the overall atmosphere. In some ways I was surprised that it was Josh's first choice as few of his primary school friends were going to move there with him, but what he saw convinced him that he would fit in and enjoy it. It really has lived up to his expectations, as well as to ours."

Taking notice of gender differences

The fact that Sandbach School is a single-sex school didn't factor particularly in their choice but has, believes Ruth, possibly been a plus point. As well as being sporty, Josh is also really into drama and being able to take part in productions such as dance, without the potential inhibitions he might have had in a mixed setting, has worked really well. Ruth also has the impression that the school appreciates the inherent differences between boys and girls, and how they function psychologically. "Evidently, boys tend to work better in the mornings so the main curriculum is delivered then, with fewer academic subjects taking place after lunch. As the school day starts at 8.30am this approach means that they get the best out of the boys academically. It certainly seems to work as far as Josh and Ollie are concerned."

Extra-curricular opportunities

Both Ruth's boys are consistently doing very well in all their subjects so she is able to appreciate the additional activities in which they also love to take part. "I am amazed by the dedication of the teachers who run so many after-school clubs. Between them, Josh and Ollie swim, take part in as many other sports as they possibly can and Josh loves his participation with the Combined Cadet Force (CCF). The staff put in a great deal of time putting these opportunities in place and it is so good for the boys to have this extra outlet for their interest and energy."

"I am amazed by the dedication of the teachers who run so many after-school clubs. Between them, Josh and Ollie swim, take part in as many other sports as they possibly can and Josh loves his participation with the Combined Cadet Force (CCF)."

Home/school communication

When children move from primary to secondary school it is often the case that parents can feel distanced from the day-to-day involvement they have been used to. For this reason Ruth appreciates the excellent home/school communication provided through the Homework Planner and the Insight website the school maintains. "It's a bit like Big Brother, as I can always find out what homework has been set, when it's due in and even what they have had for lunch! But the most important thing is that if I ever have any queries it is a quick way to contact the boys' teachers and I will almost invariably get a response within an hour or so. As a working parent, it is important to me that I can stay in touch and be completely involved with my children's schooling."

Not just a number

Whilst the on-line system is a useful way of keeping in touch, it does not replace the all-important face-to-face contact such as at Parents' Evenings. "Even though I might only meet the boys' teachers on Parents' Evenings, I can see immediately that they know both Josh and Ollie well. It is very reassuring to know that my boys are seen as people in their own right and that they are not just a number! We feel very fortunate indeed that we have found a school of this quality more or less on our doorstep."

Students say:

Josh: "I like the way that the students are respected and the teachers are fair in dealing with difficult situations."

Ollie: "I like the extra-curricular activities and the House system."



Achievement

We support our students in achieving high academic standards.

Opportunity leads to achievement

Offering our boys a wide range of opportunities means that they can achieve and excel in many areas of academic and non-academic life.

Monitoring

Our reviewing and target setting system encourages students to assess their own progress and to set targets for improvements and achievement.

Rewarding ability

We take every opportunity to commend and reward achievement.

Houses

The House system is an integral part of life at Sandbach School and aims to provide a sense of competition and achievement through a range of school-based activities including:

- Football
- Hockey
- Cricket
- Tug-of-war
- Swimming
- Orienteering
- Chess
- Art
- Poetry
- Drama.



Wendy knows there is more to a **good education** than studying alone, and at Sandbach School her son is **learning** and **achieving** in every way

Wendy Bloor and her husband Adrian live within a ten-minute walk of Sandbach School. Their daughter Chloe is 19 and Will is 16.



The right school for the right child

Wendy has no compunction about saying that they chose Sandbach School for Will because it was close to where they live and because Will was keen to move there with many of his primary school friends. However, partly because she is herself a teacher, she was perfectly aware that the school was the right one for her son for a variety of reasons.

“Will is a hard worker and appreciates the importance of knuckling down, but he actively enjoys doing so,” she says. “It is quite clear that Sandbach has the best interests of the students at heart in every way and Will has been very well supported in his academic learning, given extra work to push him where appropriate – and he thrives on that! But there is more to life than studying and it’s great that Sandbach School is able and willing to offer something over and above.”

Experience of a lifetime

Having played piano since he was younger, Will was delighted to find a prominent place in the school’s Big Band and in that capacity will be participating in the forthcoming Edinburgh Festival. More surprisingly, he has embraced the school drama group, which Wendy says has given him an unexpected boost. “Will has always been a self-sufficient boy but being involved with the Theatre Club has given him extra confidence and greater social skills, and he can hold his own with anyone. I don’t think that he would have engaged with acting and dance if it weren’t for the strong drama department at Sandbach School but it has become something of a passion! He is thoroughly looking forward to visiting the National Youth Drama School in New Zealand later this year, an organisation with which Sandbach School has an association, and I have no doubt it will be the trip of a lifetime for him.”

More to explore

Whilst Wendy is quite certain that Will would achieve academically at more or less any school he attended, she feels the quality of teaching at Sandbach School can only be to his advantage. “The teaching staff are totally committed and make every effort to get the best out of each student. Will’s predicted GCSE grades are excellent and I am very happy about that; nevertheless, to me it is more important that he has a well-rounded education to include outside interests and other opportunities to explore.”

So many options for the future

Wendy feels that Will, as a real all-rounder, has many options open to him in the future partly because he has been introduced to things he might not otherwise have considered. “He sometimes thinks he would like to take up acting as a profession but is sensible enough to

realise that university or another form of higher education is the first step. What pleases me is that he’s been given choices that cover a variety of fields, which will stand him in good stead later. From my perspective, Sandbach School has been exactly the right choice for Will; it has managed to appeal to every side of his personality and his every interest.”

Student says:

Will: “I came to this school considerably apprehensive as to what I could achieve and my potential in such a high-achieving and prestigious environment as Sandbach School.

“These nerves, however, were quickly put behind me in my first term at School in 2010 where my potential academically and across the Music, Drama and Sport departments was recognised immediately.

“Before long, I was encouraged to fulfill my potential both inside and out of the classroom and achieve the highest grades possible throughout all my school subjects, an element of support that has been unwavering since and serves as a testament to the excellent teaching available at Sandbach School.”



“Before long, I was encouraged to fulfill my potential both inside and out of the classroom and achieve the highest grades possible throughout all my school subjects.”

Excellence

Commitment to excellence for our students, in all aspects of school life.

Confidence

We equip our students with the skills to be happy, confident and independent young men who will excel in life.

Potential

We work very hard to ensure that students recognise and fulfil their potential.

Excellence across the world

Through our International School Status, we have links with schools across the world, helping students to excel globally.



Lynne was looking for a school that would **motivate** and **encourage** her sons in their own individual **interests** – and she has found it at Sandbach School

Lynne and Cameron Neil’s two sons – Harvey, 14 and Oscar, 12, have been students at Sandbach School since Year 7.



Weighing up the options

Finding the school in which you are confident that your children will thrive is not an easy task and there are many considerations. As relative newcomers to the area, Lynne and Cameron were able to look objectively at all the local schools but still had inevitable concerns when she and Cameron finally decided on Sandbach.

“Having weighed everything up, Sandbach came out on top of our list largely because it is a single-sex school, which was something we felt was an advantage as far as our boys were concerned,” she explains. “It also has an excellent reputation for its extra-curricular opportunities and this was a major factor in our decision. My only real worry was that their primary school was not one of the Sandbach ‘feeder’ schools and that they would miss the organised transition process, but having talked this through with one of the teachers, I was given sensible and effective advice. Both boys settled in very quickly during their first term and we were impressed about how seamlessly they felt themselves part of the school community.

“Both Harvey and Oscar have, through being encouraged to pursue and develop their own personal interests, slotted in very well amongst their new classmates.”

Inclusive and nurturing

Lynne’s only other possible reason for concern was the fact that Sandbach has a very strong sporting ethos and neither boys are keen sportsmen. However, this has not proved to be an issue. “Sandbach is a very inclusive and nurturing environment with cultural and creative opportunities given equal emphasis to sport,” she says. “I was particularly reassured by the very strong Music Department and this has especially helped Harvey to find his niche at the school.” Harvey has played the clarinet since primary school and has now been supported to take up the saxophone. He is a member of the Wind Band, the Clarinet Quartet, the Saxophone Group, the Junior Big Band and has ambitions to progress further still.

A love of literature and learning

As far as Oscar is concerned, his love of reading has allowed him the chance to become a member of the school’s team of Librarians. “Oscar likes nothing better than to spend his time in the library and he jumped at the opportunity to apply for a role there. He had to go through an application and interview – another good learning experience – and is not only there to issue and receive books but to help in events such as World Book Day and author visits, and to advise other students in their reading choices. At the moment, it is his perfect day job!”

“The school does not push children into anything but if a student shows an interest, he will be supported, encouraged and offered every chance to shine using the skills and abilities he has.”

Focus on the individual

Lynne has no concerns that these particular interests interfere with Harvey and Oscar’s academic performance, with both the boys making strong academic progress. “They both did well at primary school and I really hoped that momentum would carry on in high school,” she says. “That has undoubtedly been the case, with the bonus that they have been able to focus additionally on their own individual interests. Although Sandbach School is noted for its sporting achievements, it is not elitist in that way and thoroughly values those students who show an interest in many other disciplines.”

Motivation

The advice given to Lynne when she first approached Sandbach School was ‘encourage your children to make the most of the extra-curricular opportunities’ and, having done so with great success, she would endorse this view. “The school does not push children into anything but if a student shows an interest, he will be supported, encouraged and offered every chance to shine using the skills and abilities he has. This attitude is empowering and I am sure, the key to helping children to make an all-round success of their education.”

An unparalleled education

It is telling that both Harvey and Oscar have 100% attendance records at Sandbach, proof indeed that it was the right choice of school. “There are other very good schools in the county but Sandbach has been the one which gives our sons an unparalleled secondary education and the opportunity to develop their personalities and interests. I am glad that we listened to our instincts rather than worrying about things which turned out not to be important.”

Student says:

Oscar: “I enjoy going to the Library. It’s like a second home and I like being part of the Library community.”



The Arts

The Arts at Sandbach School is not just about the courses and curriculum but about building a community.

Sandbach School has an international reputation for drama and music, touring to Hong Kong, New Zealand and Brazil, and performing shows in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Drama

Over the course of the year we stage numerous productions, which give every Year Group the opportunity to be involved. We run a regular Year 7 Drama club to give younger students in KS3 their first experiences on the stage. Each year, the club stages a production, in the Theatre Space in front of an audience. In addition to extra-curricular performances, students will prepare a performance for the Evenings of Dance and Physical Theatre. This is a large scale showcase of the work that students have undertaken in their Dance lessons.

We also feel it is really important for students to see live theatre. Throughout the year, our theatre club organises trips to see shows at The Lowry, The Regent Theatre, The Royal Exchange and The Palace Theatre in Manchester. Students are then able to use what they have seen to inspire their work in lessons.

Music

Each year the Music Department organises and participates in an average of 60 public performances. In addition to school commitments (Commemoration Day, carol service, Christmas concert, Awards Day etc.) the department takes the opportunity to travel, ranging from the Cheshire Show and the Bridgewater Hall, to performances at the Edinburgh Festival (where the Big Band received two 4* reviews) and in the past few years tours to New England (USA) Berlin and Istanbul. The school has celebrated many years of success in the Cheshire Schools' Music Competition having won the secondary ensemble category with the big band and now with our newly formed 'The Brass Boys' in 2014.

There are groups and ensembles for nearly all instrumental disciplines, which are run by both our music teaching staff and also by our peripatetic specialist tutors. Each year ensembles and groups are revised to support and accommodate our students and their musical interests.



Motivation, encouragement and high standards – Victoria has found all these for her son at Sandbach School

Victoria Palethorpe and her husband, Mark, live in Sandbach with their children Tom, 12, Evie, 10 and Matilda, seven. Tom is in Year 7 at Sandbach School.



The chance to make the most of talent

The Palethorpe family moved to Sandbach just over a year ago at the time they were starting to look for secondary schools for Tom. As Victoria is a music teacher and works in the surrounding area, she is fairly familiar with the local schools and has a good insight into what makes each of them tick. "I'm not sure if it's an advantage as a parent to see what goes on behind the scenes!" she says, "but I have always been impressed with the emphasis placed on music at Sandbach School. Tom is a good musician himself and he decided that Sandbach School was the best place for him."

Victoria describes the Music Department at Sandbach School as second to none and as a talented trumpeter, Tom has had the opportunity he wanted to be challenged in his playing. "The school has a particularly strong brass tradition and listening to them play I have to pinch myself to believe that these are just young boys," Victoria says. "Sandbach School really goes the extra mile to ensure the boys make the most of their talent and the results are wonderful."

Smooth transition

As Tom was the only pupil from his primary school to move to Sandbach School, the school's Big Band was a valuable way of helping him to settle in quickly and start to make a new circle of friends. However, for children who do not have a specific interest pastoral care is, believes Victoria, taken very seriously. "Transition can be a difficult time for children but the Student Support Co-ordinator is very hands-on and aware that some might struggle more than others, so it was very reassuring to know that she was looking out for Tom in the early stages. I have never had cause to worry about his welfare or his school work and it's an added bonus that I can check on anything I need to through the parents' website."

Interaction without distraction!

Whether or not the school building itself has anything to do with it, Victoria approves of the high standards expected from the boys in terms of behaviour and presentation. "The building is so beautiful and I think that is bound to have an impact as I'm sure the boys respect their surroundings. Generally speaking, they are always well-turned out and courteous and inappropriate behaviour of any kind is absolutely not tolerated. Of course, in an all-boys' school there are fewer distractions but they have the advantage of sharing certain facilities with the nearby girls' school so that is the best of both worlds."

""The building is so beautiful and I think that is bound to have an impact as I'm sure the boys respect their surroundings. Generally speaking, they are always well-turned out and courteous and inappropriate behaviour of any kind is absolutely not tolerated."

Motivation and reward

Academically speaking, Tom is performing above expectations and again, Victoria puts this down partly to the high standards expected of all students. "They are motivated and rewarded for quality and effort and seem to rise to the challenge," she believes. "They might have the incentive of a small individual prize or be treated collectively to a takeaway pizza for overall class performance! It all goes to show them that hard work and good behaviour pays off."

Seeing the bigger picture

A further advantage for Tom is that the family now live close enough to his school for him to be able to walk there and back and that he has the chance to maintain school friendships easily during the holidays. "This is a more socially diverse area than where we used to live but that is an added bonus," Victoria says. "Now Tom is mixing with children from lots of different backgrounds he's getting a much better picture of life in the real world and that's a great preparation. We took quite a risk by uprooting the family to move here, but it has proved a very positive experience and we are very pleased indeed with our choice."



Sport

Sport across the year

Sandbach School runs a broad and balanced extra-curricular programme, including fixtures across a variety of sports and activities, which take place after school and at weekends.

Autumn

During the autumn term, rugby football, hockey, cross-country and orienteering feature strongly in the school's calendared events.

Spring

Within the spring term, association football, hockey and swimming dominate.

Summer

Summer term consists of cricket, tennis and athletics.

In addition to the above mentioned activities we provide opportunity for the pupils to experience badminton, basketball, canoeing, circuit training, golf, table tennis, water sports and volleyball.

The school teams compete regularly at inter-school, district, county, regional and national events, and students have achieved honours at all levels. The school have recently produced six rugby and three hockey internationals.

Recent sports tours have included:

- Rugby, football and hockey squads toured Italy
- Two cricket squads toured the Cape Region of South Africa

Physical education teaches the body to excel and achieve, creating even more opportunities for the student.



Amanda and Paul were concerned about the **ability** of a mainstream secondary school to meet the needs of their profoundly deaf sons, but Sandbach School listened to them and rose **excellently** to the **challenge**

Amanda Barker and her husband Paul live in Sandbach with their sons Josh, 15 and 12-year-old Dom.



Taking a gamble

In the same way as most children moving up to high school from primary, Josh was keen to go to the school the majority of his friends would be attending but for Amanda and Paul this potentially presented a problem. Both Josh and Dom are profoundly deaf and for this reason have needed additional support throughout their school lives. "Although they have cochlear implants which give them an acceptable level of hearing in perfect circumstances, a noisy classroom can be a challenging environment for them," explains Amanda. "We had to decide whether Sandbach School would be able to address Josh's needs without compromising his education but because Josh was so keen, we went ahead and took a gamble."

Positive and welcoming

The fact that they were also happy to send Dom there three years later proves that the gamble has paid off. "We got in touch with Sandbach School early on in Year 5 to brief them in advance, and although the school had never before catered for a profoundly deaf student they were welcoming and very positive about taking Josh on. They admitted to having little knowledge about what to expect but have always been very receptive to advice from us and other professionals, and they handled the transition into Year 7 very efficiently. Ever since then, they have put in place several measures to accommodate the needs of deaf pupils and I believe that perhaps only a specialist school for the deaf could have been a more effective setting. As that option would have been detrimental by separating the boys from their established friendship groups, we have absolutely no regrets about our choice."

The lesson comes over loud and clear

Measures taken by Sandbach School include extra support in lessons where necessary, with a Teaching Assistant to ensure the boys have fully heard and understood instructions. The school has also installed Soundfield systems in certain areas to improve the acoustics and amplify the teachers' voices. "A hearing impaired child has to concentrate much harder on what is being said and that is very tiring," Amanda says, "so having someone to take notes in class for them, for example, helps a great deal and takes some of the pressure off. Neither of the boys has suffered academically; they are both thriving and very happy at school."

A two-way learning experience

It is only rarely, says Amanda, that she has encountered any problems connected with the boys' disability and on each occasion the issue has been sorted out quickly and effectively. "Given that this has been a learning curve for the school, it is not surprising that sometimes something doesn't quite go according to plan.

"There are so many opportunities, and something for everyone, and that is another reason why in every way I am certain that we made the right decision."

Because the boys are doing so well it is easy to forget that Josh and Dom aren't exactly the same as all the other boys so once in a while I've needed to remind someone that they do need special consideration and may need more time to complete homework or an assignment. My concerns have always been quickly addressed and the Learning Support Department staff actively welcome the chance to learn from the experience."

Embracing the challenges

So successful has Josh and Dom's integration into the school been that they and their parents have helped to pave the way for other hearing-impaired students who have subsequently joined the school, and some who are considering doing so. "In some ways Josh and Dom have been the guinea pigs who have helped improve the school provision for hearing impaired children so it has been a mutually beneficial exercise. I have been impressed by how the school has approached the boys' needs and by the way it has embraced the challenges associated with their disability."

A level playing field!

One place where both Josh and Dom can compete on absolutely the same terms as their peers is on the football, cricket and hockey pitch, both representing the school in hockey. "Another attraction of Sandbach for them was the sports facilities and they have made the most of it," Amanda says. "There are so many opportunities, and something for everyone, and that is another reason why in every way I am certain that we made the right decision."



Sixth Form

Forging the fundamental cultural and moral values that fully prepare students for adult life.

Growing and dynamic

We have a growing and dynamic Sixth Form enrolling boys and girls from ages 16-19. As one of the leading post-16 providers in Cheshire East, we have a proven track record of students achieving the best possible outcomes.

Broaden horizons

We have a network of clubs and societies to provide students with the opportunity to broaden their horizons. These range from the formal sporting clubs that have run successfully for many years, to more recent additions such as the Debating Society, Medical / Dentistry Society, and many others. These clubs and societies provide further opportunity for students to develop as an individual by taking a leadership role within them.



Sandbach School has given Mark's son the chance to make a career from a skill he didn't know he possessed

Mark and Elizabeth Morris live in Sandbach with their four children. Tim is nearly 18 and in his final year at Sandbach School.



Something new to try

Mark and Elizabeth were drawn towards Sandbach School for their eldest son mainly because of its reputation for encouraging excellence in its students. However, they could not have predicted quite how accurate that reputation was in terms of what Tim has achieved in the seven years he has been there. "Tim has played football to a good standard ever since he was very young, and he was pleased that the facilities at Sandbach School allowed him to keep up his participation in the sport," says Mark. "Then, as he is a keen outdoor type, his PE teacher suggested that he try cross-country running and he decided to give it a go."

Running towards success

When Mark arrived to collect Tim after his first race he was astonished to hear that Tim had won. "It was something he'd never done before or shown an interest in so it was amazing to find that he had done so well. After that he just kept on winning, not just in the school team but against other local schools and before long he was representing not just his school but running for the County."

Recognition of talent

Tim joined a local running club to help him make the most of this new-found talent, but Mark has been delighted by the support of the school in promoting Tim's proficiency. "The school recognised that Tim had something special and have been great in helping him to capitalise on it," he says. "He has been given every opportunity to compete and to improve, and they have even provided transport to events if we've been unable to attend ourselves. Most of all, they have hugely boosted his confidence by showing him how good he is, and bringing out his leadership skills by appointing him Team Captain and asking him to help with coaching the younger boys. Tim used to be a fairly quiet and reticent boy, but because of the faith the school has shown in his abilities, that is a thing of the past."

Opening doors

Academically, Tim is a capable student and is taking three A Levels this summer but whatever the outcome he is assured of a place at Leeds Beckett University to study Sports Coaching. "He's been offered an unconditional place so is not under huge pressure but I think he'll do well, anyway," says Mark. "What is so good is that Sandbach School has opened so many doors for him, and I am fairly certain that this would not have been the case had he gone to a school with a lesser commitment to the promotion of sports."

"It was something he'd never done before or shown an interest in so it was amazing to find that he had done so well. After that he just kept on winning, not just in the school team but against other local schools and before long he was representing not just his school but running for the County."

Out of the shadows

Mark believes that during primary school Tim felt slightly overshadowed by his academic older sister, but that the opportunities he was offered at Sandbach School have helped him to acknowledge his own strengths. "Sandbach School has given him a belief in himself and brought out the best in him, giving him a possibly unique chance to achieve in his own particular field of interest. I also feel that the continuity of the Sixth Form provision has been an added bonus, enabling him to maintain his sport and academic work in familiar surroundings and amongst his friends."

A winning approach

Mark has no hesitation in saying that Tim's younger brother will also be moving on to Sandbach School in a few years' time. "What I most admire about the school is that the students are given every chance to find and to make the most of their own talents and strengths, and that their achievements are celebrated in every way. The school appreciates effort, not just intellectual but in personal behaviour, creativity and on the sports field, and undoubtedly, Tim has benefited from that approach."

Student says:

Tim: "Without valuable support from the PE department I would not have considered sport as a career. I am now looking forward to taking up my place at Leeds Beckett University on a Sports Coaching course. Who knows, maybe one day I'll be back at Sandbach School as a sports coach or PE teacher!"

"I would strongly recommend students interested in sport to consider Sandbach School. With its excellent PE staff and facilities, success is assured."



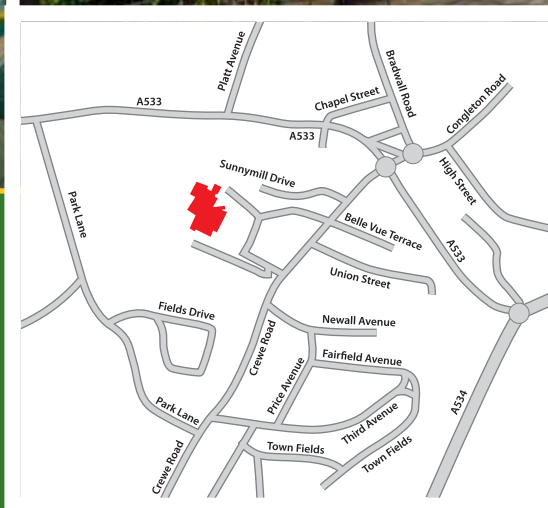
Mission and Values

Our crest

The Latin motto "Ut Severis Seges" broadly translates as "As you sow, so shall you reap" or the more you put into school life, the more you will get out of it.

Our values

- Commitment to excellence in all aspects of school life – "working hard and playing hard".
- Respect for self and others, combined with a responsibility and caring for all members of the school and its wider community.
- Integrity, honesty and openness in how every member of the school community operates.
- Encouragement of all to be creative, innovative and able to take initiative in order to develop every individual beyond their perceived potential.



Sandbach School
Crewe Road
Sandbach
Cheshire
CW11 3NS

Email: enquiries@sandbachschool.org
Tel: 01270 758870
Fax: 01270 764787