



Norham High school is a vibrant school at the heart of its community. It is a place that **Believes** in its pupils and **Strives** to **Achieve** the very best for each and every one.

It is an outgoing school with excellent links in the community and strong business links. The school is situated in a challenging area. We believe we have the responsibility and capacity to improve the life chances of our community through innovation, high expectations, passion and commitment to shaping lives and changing the future.

At Norham we pride ourselves on:

- having the highest expectations of ourselves and students quality first teaching and learning
- an innovative curriculum that motivates and inspires students and prepares them for life in the 21st Century
- a wide range of popular extra-curricular activities that engage and excite students
- strong partnerships that improve outcomes for our students and their families

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, governors, volunteers and visitors to the school to share this commitment.

#### **Background:**

The school is situated in an area of social deprivation. The four wards that Norham serves are in the 1000 most deprived wards nationally. (IMD Index of Multiple Deprivation) and ranked 9 in terms of multiple deprivation North Tyneside. For many years there has been a lack of self-esteem in the community but that is beginning to change. New housing, a revitalisation scheme for Meadow Well and new industries have signalled hope for many people in the area.

#### **Ethos:**

Norham is characterised by a caring, respectful and friendly ethos. Visitors always comment on the calm and purposeful atmosphere that pervades the school. We want our students to develop as caring, confident and capable young adults and opportunities are taken to boost the confidence and self-esteem of our students. The effort and achievements of staff and students are recognised and celebrated throughout the year.

#### **Intake:**

The current role is approximately 400.

#### **Support for students:**

Norham is proud of the support offered to students and their families to ensure barriers to learning are removed and students achieve their potential. Norham has a multi-agency Inclusion Group that regularly review and develop school policy and procedure. Norham is the only secondary mainstream provision for students with Autistic Spectrum Disorders. We have worked closely with the LA and DFE to develop our Communication Resource Base, a provision for up to 33 students in the 11-16 age range with Autistic Spectrum Disorder.



### **Staffing:**

Staff are our most valuable resource. At Norham we are proud of our record in Investors in People. Staff development is a major priority and considerable funding is targeted every year to provide opportunities for all staff to develop personally and professionally in their role. All staff are part of the Performance Management Programme to ensure they receive their individual entitlement to support and training. We currently have 33 teaching staff and 53 support staff who work as a team to ensure the quality of provision at Norham.

### **Students:**

Our students care passionately about their school and the education they receive. They are fully involved in the life of the school through:

- The School Council
- Y11 Prefects
- Young Carers

Each week a group of students create a Norham News video.

### **Partnerships and the wider community:**

We strongly believe that students should be engaged in the process of life-long learning that has continuity and progression. For that reason we have formed strong partnerships with our feeder primary schools, further education schools, training agencies and business and industry.

The school has a sixth form provision run in partnership with Queen Alexandra College based at Hawley's Lane, North Shields.

On-site we have an Adult Education Centre running a range of activities designed to improve skills and get people running a range of activities designed to improve skills and get people in employment.

The school has formed a unique partnership with Churchill Community College, a neighbouring outstanding school. The partnership is accelerating progress at Norham High School and providing extra opportunities for pupils and staff.