

Valley Park School

General Information for Applicants

Valley Park is the school of choice in the Maidstone area, being the most over-subscribed school in Kent. Part of Kent-based Valley Invicta Academies Trust, our school is proud of its high expectations in terms of student conduct, attitudes and academic standards. We hope that you will review the information available on our website (www.valleypark.viat.org.uk) and decide to proceed with your application.

Valley Park School is a mixed 11-18 high school with over 1600 students on roll. The Sixth Form is thriving and continues to grow.

Our school is underpinned by a set of core values (**PRIDE**):

- **Personal excellence:** Recognise and appreciate excellence in everything that we do. Understand that excellence is achieved through hard work and dedication. Believe that excellence can be achieved.
- **Respect:** For all members of the school community, home, the wider community and our working environment.
- **Individuality:** Understanding that every member of the school community is unique with their own strengths and weaknesses.
- **Determination:** Striving to improve continuously and recognising that learning happens also when we fail.
- **Equality:** Understanding, embracing and celebrating cultural diversity.

We were inspected under the new Ofsted framework in March 2020 and are proud of our judgements, which was Good in all areas. Inspectors noted that:

- Students take their learning very seriously; they work hard in their lessons, always trying their best.
- Pupils' behaviour is of a very high standard.
- The curriculum is broad and has a logical sequence.
- All pupils conduct themselves with maturity.
- Pupils act well on the feedback they receive. This is a strength of the school's practice.
- Leaders have a positive impact on pupils with SEND. Staff have achieved this through thoughtful and well-judged support.
- The sixth form is a strength of the school. Students have a broad set of courses to choose from.

The education culture at Valley Park School is based on 3 key principles in which we aim to be outstanding.

1. Outstanding Care

Every student at Valley Park thrives as a member of a cohesive and tolerant community with the highest possible future aspirations for themselves and each other. The key features of Outstanding Care at Valley Park are:

- **Attendance:** care focused on the relationship between outstanding attendance and outstanding educational achievement
- **Social adjustment:** care to develop a happy student, highly motivated to learn
- **Behaviour:** care to foster outstanding behaviour as the key to taking full advantage of education
- **Academic Progress:** care to ensure that every student's progress is tracked with intervention as necessary to ensure all students achieve beyond their potential
- **Individual Educational Needs:** care based on a belief that all students have individual needs that we identify and to which we will respond
- **Individual Health Needs:** care for students with specific health needs.

2. Outstanding Education

Every student at Valley Park benefits from an education that has creativity at its heart and literacy and numeracy as building blocks, within the framework of a broad and balanced curriculum.

3. Outstanding Opportunities

The opportunities available help students identify, develop and explore their personal interests and aptitudes. The key features of Outstanding Opportunities at Valley Park are:

- The Arts: Opportunities to learn a musical instrument, to visit galleries, museums, theatre, concerts and live performance, and to participate in live performances of their own
- Leadership: Opportunities to lead and influence others
- Sport: Opportunities to develop individual skills and a healthy lifestyle alongside a love of competitive sport and games
- Internationalism: Opportunities to interact with global cultures
- Service to others: Opportunities to help others and volunteer as a member of a team.

We are seeking dedicated colleagues to join our established community and we look forward to receiving and reviewing your application.

Valley Park School is an equal opportunities employer. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Successful applicants are subject to a DBS check and satisfactory, relevant, employment references.

Mrs M Hutchinson
Headteacher
March 2020