

Welcome to Abbs Cross Academy. I apologise that I am not able to meet with you face to face as I would normally, though I am sure you understand that owing to these exceptional circumstances that is not possible. Ordinarily, open evenings at Abbs Cross are incredibly busy as we are a heavily oversubscribed school. We are oversubscribed because of the outstanding education and care that we provide for the children of our community.

So what makes Abbs Cross so special?

1. We are a school that is based on strong, traditional family values.
2. We expect children to be engaged in their education and to want to do well.
3. We believe in traditional values of behaviour and teach our pupils how to address all members of our community in a polite and formal manner.
4. We are a family – we know our pupils and have high expectations of them, as well as strict boundaries.
5. We believe in valuing the whole child and in building resilience for a future that we cannot predict. We have a pastoral structure that supports our pupils, with a dedicated team who check behaviour and ensure that our high expectations are met.

We have one simple rule at Abbs Cross: **be in the right place at the right time doing the right thing.**

We expect parents to uphold our values and be supportive of our behaviour systems. We do not allow mobile phones to be used in school and we expect parents to support us in this measure. There is plenty of time to use all the apps that the children have, but not during school time.

Our environment is calm, friendly and purposeful. We have an ethos that encourages a high level of self-discipline. All children must be in full uniform at all times - and yes, we do care about the small things: top button done up, shirts tucked in and blazers worn at all times. We believe that if we ask a child to do something then that must apply to all children – no exceptions.

Children must be proud of the Abbs Cross uniform and of attending our school. Abbs Cross has committed, dedicated and proud staff, all of whom value working in such an outstanding school.

We offer a wide range of very high quality academic and vocational courses and all students have the opportunity to undertake realistic scientific and business related projects. Full use is made of the very

latest technology and state-of-the-art computing facilities are a feature of teaching in all curriculum areas. Results at GCSE have continued to improve every year and we continue to strive to ensure that our school becomes outstanding and delivers an outstanding education, in every lesson, every day.

We are proud to say that during the lockdown period all children continued their education on a daily basis following their existing school timetable with teachers available to answer questions through Google Classrooms. In this achievement, I am immensely proud of my staff and students.

If your child needs our support and guidance, we will ensure that this is provided. We wish to make sure that all young people continue to be motivated and inspired in their education, and at every stage, we want to ensure that parents are fully involved.

You have high expectations and aspirations for your child; you want them to have a bright future, and to help them prepare for the future; we will be part of that process.

Life is changing for all of us. The current economic market places even greater value on education. If you are lucky enough to get a place here, we promise you that with our best endeavours we will make sure that your child thrives in our environment and the doors to opportunity are open to them. Abbs Cross Academy values your child and your child's education: this is a school where every child has the opportunity to flourish.