



**BALLAKERMEEN  
HIGH SCHOOL**

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**KINDNESS | HONESTY | RESPECT**

HEAD TEACHER  
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### Top performing GCSE subjects in 2024: (Percentage of A\* - C)

|                  |      |        |      |
|------------------|------|--------|------|
| PHYSICS          | 100% | PE     | 100% |
| BIOLOGY          | 100% | ICT    | 97%  |
| CHEMISTRY        | 100% | ART    | 95%  |
| ADDITIONAL MATHS | 100% | MUSIC  | 92%  |
| COOKERY          | 100% | FRENCH | 89%  |

| GCSE Headlines                 | BHS 2022 | BHS 2023 | BHS 2024 |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| % entries attaining A* - C     | 75       | 70       | 75       |
| % entries attaining A* - A     | 20       | 17       | 21       |
| % entries attaining 5A* - C    | 66       | 65       | 67       |
| % entries attaining 5A* - C EM | 61       | 55       | 58       |
| Average GCSE points per entry  | 41.7     | 40       | 41.4     |

| A Level Headlines          | BHS 2022 | BHS 2023 | BHS 2024 |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| % entries attaining A* - A | 20       | 21       | 27       |
| % entries attaining A* - B | 46       | 42       | 48       |
| % entries attaining A* - C | 73       | 68       | 74       |
| % entries attaining A* - E | 97       | 96       | 97       |



# OUR SCHOOL

**L**ocated on one site, we are the largest school on the island with 1,476 students on roll. Our Sixth Form has 204 students, undertaking academic courses Post 16. We offer an incredibly broad curriculum made up of 35 subjects.

The Year 7 intake for September 2024 was 212. Student numbers remain buoyant, but with possible changes to our catchment area, we anticipate that our numbers on roll will reduce to a more manageable 1,400 by 2025.

The overall GCSE pass rate for 2024 was 75% A\*-C including English and Maths. At 'A' Level the A - E pass rate is 97%. The academic standards of the school are supported each year thanks to the hard work and commitment of the staff. However, we continue to challenge any under-achievement. The continual improvement of teaching and learning is always a priority in our school improvement plan.

Manx schools offer a 'fully inclusive' education and all schools have special units for SEBD and MLD children. In addition, at Ballakermeen, we cater for students with sensory impairments, English as an Additional Language, or those requiring 'nurture' provision.

There is a strong tradition in the Arts and sporting activities. Staff give freely of their time, providing extensive opportunities for students to participate in activities, foreign visits and exchanges.

We have developed strong links with China through our sister school, No 1 High School, Liuyang. Our Confucius Classroom, the first in the Crown Dependencies, opened in July 2015, offering Mandarin lessons to all schools and our island community.

Our pastoral care is organised through a horizontal year system. Currently the Head of Year 7 is fixed to oversee liaison from partner primary schools, as well as Year 7 Induction, whilst the Heads of Year 8 to 11 follow their groups through the school. There is a dedicated Sixth Form Pastoral Team with a Key Stage 5 Leader and four Deputy Heads of Sixth Form.

We make full use of Education Support Staff who work with students in the classroom, as well as in specific subject areas.

As a secondary school teacher on the Isle of Man, you will be part of a student centred approach to teaching and learning that is underpinned by the Island's Essentials for Learning Curriculum Statement, the aim of which is '*to inspire learners to flourish in life*'.

Historically, the Isle of Man has followed the English examination system. An island-wide consultation was undertaken in 2014 and the decision was made to move the island's five secondary schools to the Cambridge IGCSE (CAIE), an internationally recognised qualification. This decision was made to ensure that the qualifications delivered on the island retained coursework and practical aspects.

This picture has evolved over time and subject areas now have the option to use the Welsh exam board as an alternative (WJEC) and indeed, some subject areas have recently moved over to courses graded 9-1.

A range of vocational qualifications are offered including BTECs and SQA (Scottish Qualification Authority) awards.



# ETHOS AND VALUES



Our values are: Kindness, Honesty and Respect. We support our students to develop these values alongside the learner attributes outlined below.

Our school provides a safe and supportive environment founded on high expectations, mutual respect and enjoyment of learning.

Access to a broad, balanced, relevant and engaging curriculum is the right of all students. This will enable them to develop their potential abilities as individuals and as members of society.



## READY

- I arrive at school, on time
- I am fully equipped and ready to learn
- I am always willing to take on new challenges

## REFLECTIVE

- I am able to think about my learning and can identify ways to improve
- I listen to and respond to feedback
- I think about the impact of the choices I have made

## KNOWLEDGEABLE

- I learn from experiences
- I am able to remember and recall important information
- I can link my learning across different subjects

## AMBITIOUS

- I set myself challenging targets
- I always strive to do my very best
- I want to be successful





# SAFEGUARDING

The Department of Education, Sport and Culture is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

**All staff** are required to undertake training with regard to the safeguarding and welfare of children and young people and the Department commits to providing this training e.g. via induction, on-line, briefings at staff meetings inset days etc., as appropriate.

All staff have a responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young persons for whom they are responsible, or with whom they come into contact and to adhere to, and ensure compliance with, the Safeguarding Children Board Child Protection procedures and the school/service's Child Protection Policy at all times. If, in the course of carrying out the duties of the post, the post holder becomes aware of any actual or potential risks to the safety or welfare of children School/Service, they must report any concerns to the designated Safeguarding lead in their area or to the department's Child Protection and Safeguarding Officer.

The contents of this job description may be reviewed and updated as necessary to ensure that it remains accurate and complete. All changes will be made in discussion and with the agreement of the Head of Service or designated Officer.



# TEACHING ON THE ISLE OF MAN



**T**he Isle of Man is 33 miles long and 13 miles wide - 227 square miles in total land area. It has a population of 85,888 - 382 people per square mile, and 40% of the Island is uninhabited. The Isle of Man is independent and free from UK Government legislation.

Currently, the Department of Education, Sport and Culture will meet 70% of the expenses necessarily incurred in transporting the recruit, partner and any dependant children and their personal, household and other effects, including one motor vehicle, to the Isle of Man.

Where the recruit has a UK mortgaged property, which is for sale and for which no rental income is received, and is paying either rent or mortgage on an Isle of Man property, assistance to a maximum of £500 per month for a maximum of two years may be granted. A housing allowance for rental properties may also be available.

Education and teachers highly regarded by the community.

All teachers are provided with a laptop computer.

#### Transport Links:

There are regular flights to the island from numerous airports in the UK and Ireland (Liverpool 20 minutes, Manchester 30 minutes, London 50 minutes, Dublin and Belfast 40 minutes).

Alternatively, you can travel by boat. For more information please visit:

- [www.locate.im](http://www.locate.im)
- [www.gov.im/airport](http://www.gov.im/airport)
- [www.steam-packet.com](http://www.steam-packet.com)



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# OUR STAFF *STRUCTURE*

