

= Sale , Greater Manchester =

Sale is a town in Trafford , Greater Manchester , England . Historically in Cheshire , it is on the south bank of the River Mersey , 1 @. @ 9 miles (3 @. @ 1 km) south of Stretford , 2 @. @ 5 miles (4 @. @ 0 km) northeast of Altrincham , and 5 @. @ 2 miles (8 @. @ 4 km) southwest of Manchester . In 2011 , it had a population of 134 @, @ 122 .

Evidence of Stone Age , Roman , and Anglo @-@ Saxon activity has been discovered locally . In the Middle Ages , Sale was a rural township , linked ecclesiastically with neighbouring Ashton upon Mersey , whose fields and meadows were used for crop and cattle farming . By the 17th century , Sale had a cottage industry manufacturing garthweb , the woven material from which horses ' saddle girths were made .

The Bridgewater Canal reached the town in 1765 , stimulating Sale 's urbanisation . The arrival of the railway in 1849 triggered Sale 's growth as a commuter town for Manchester , leading to an influx of middle class residents ; by the end of the 19th century the town 's population had more than tripled . Agriculture gradually declined as service industries boomed .

Sale 's urban growth resulted in a merger with neighbouring Ashton upon Mersey , following the Local Government Act 1929 . The increase in population led to the granting of a charter in 1935 , giving Sale honorific borough status . Since then , Sale has continued to thrive as a commuter town , supported by its proximity to the M60 motorway and the Manchester Metrolink network . Sale Water Park contains an artificial lake used for water sports . Sale FC and Sale Sharks rugby union clubs and Sale Harriers athletics club were founded in Sale , although only the first now remains in the town at their Heywood Road ground .

= = History = =

A flint arrowhead discovered in Sale suggests a prehistoric human presence at the location , but there is no further evidence of activity in the area until the Roman period . A 4th @-@ century hoard of 46 Roman coins was discovered in Ashton upon Mersey , one of four known hoards dating from that period discovered within the Mersey basin . Sale lies along the line of the Roman road which runs between the fortresses at Chester (Deva Victrix) and York (Eboracum) , via the fort at Manchester (Mamucium) ; the present @-@ day A56 follows the route of the road through the town . After the Roman departure from Britain in the early @-@ 5th century , Britain was invaded by the Anglo @-@ Saxons .

Some local field and road names , and the name of Sale itself , are Anglo @-@ Saxon in origin , which indicates the town was founded in the 7th or 8th centuries . The Old English salh , from which " Sale " is derived , means " at the willow tree " , and Ashton upon Mersey means " village or farm near the ash trees " . Although the townships of Sale and Ashton upon Mersey were not mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 , that may be because only a partial survey was taken . The first recorded occurrences of Sale and Ashton upon Mersey are in 1199 ? 1216 and 1260 respectively . The settlements were referred to as townships rather than manors , which suggests further evidence of Anglo @-@ Saxon origins as townships were developed by the Saxons .

The manor of Sale was one of 30 held by William FitzNigel , a powerful 12th century baron in north Cheshire . He divided it between Thomas de Sale and Adam de Carrington , who acted as Lords of the Manor on FitzNigel 's behalf . On de Sale 's death , his land passed to his son @-@ in @-@ law , John Holt ; de Carrington 's land passed into the ownership of Richard de Massey , a member of the Masseys who were Barons of Dunham . Sale descended through the Holt and Massey families until the 17th century , when their respective lands were sold . Sale Old Hall was built in about 1603 for James Massey , probably to replace a medieval manor house , and was one of the first buildings in northwest England to be made of brick . It was rebuilt in 1840 and demolished in 1920 , but two buildings in its grounds have survived : its dovecote , now in Walkden Gardens , and its lodge , the latter now occupied by Sale Golf Club .

In 1745 , Crossford Bridge ? which dated back to at least 1367 ? was torn down . It was one of a series of bridges crossing the River Mersey destroyed by order of the government , to slow the

advance of Jacobite forces during the Jacobite rising . The Jacobites repaired the bridge upon reaching Manchester , and used it to send a small force into Sale and Altrincham . Their intention was to deceive the authorities into believing that the Jacobites were heading for Chester . The feint was successful and the main Jacobite army later marched south through Cheadle and Stockport instead .

The extension of the Bridgewater Canal to Runcorn was completed as far as Sale by 1765 , and transformed the town 's economy by providing a quick and cheap route into Manchester for fresh produce . Farmers who took their wares to market in Manchester brought back night soil to fertilise the fields . Not everyone benefited from the canal however ; several yeomen claimed that their crops were damaged by flooding from the Barfoot Bridge aqueduct . A 1777 map shows the village of Cross Street , on the site of the road now of the same name , divided between the townships of Sale and Ashton upon Mersey . The village was first referred to in 1586 and is believed to have originated around this time . The map also shows that Sale was spread out , mainly consisting of farmhouses around Dane Road , Fairy Lane , and Old Hall Road . Sale absorbed Cross Street as it expanded .

About 300 acres (120 ha) of " wasteland " known as Sale Moor was enclosed in 1807 , to be divided between the landowners in Sale . This was part of a nationwide initiative to begin cultivation of common land to lessen the food shortage caused by the Napoleonic Wars . Records of poor relief in the town start in 1808 , a time when the region was in the grip of an economic depression . Poorhouses , where paupers could stay rent @-@ free , were built in the early @-@ 19th century , reflecting the poor state of the local economy . In 1829 , Samuel Brooks acquired 515 acres (208 ha) of land in Sale ? about a quarter of the township ? from George Grey , 6th Earl of Stamford . The area later became known as Brooklands after the land owner .

The Manchester , South Junction and Altrincham Railway opened in 1849 , and led to the middle classes using Sale as a commuter town , a residence away from their place of work . This resulted in Sale 's population more than tripling by the end of the 19th century . The land in Sale Moor was the cheapest in the town because the soil was poor and difficult to cultivate , which was part of the reason the area was common land until the early 19th century . However , when the railway opened , Sale Moor was close to the station and became the most expensive area in Sale . Villas were built in Sale Moor , and a few in Ashton upon Mersey as the demand for land increased . They were often decorated with stained glass or different coloured bricks in an attempt to make them " mansions in miniature " for the aspiring middle class .

Pressure from an increasing population led to the town being supplied with amenities such as sewers , which were built in 1875 ? 1880 ; and Sale was connected to the telephone network in 1888 . As in the late @-@ 19th century , the early @-@ 20th century saw a great deal of construction work in Sale . The town 's first swimming baths were built in 1914 , and its first cinema , the Palace , was opened during the First World War . The end of the war in 1918 resulted in a rush of marriages , which highlighted a shortage of housing . The local councils of Sale and Ashton upon Mersey took the initiative of building council housing , and rented it to the local population at below market rates . By the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939 , Sale had 594 council houses . The building programme was interrupted by the start of the war. additional private housing development brought the total of inter @-@ war houses built in Sale to around 900 , including large housing estates like Woodheys Hall estate in Ashton .

Sale was never officially evacuated during the war , and even received families from evacuated areas , although it was not considered far enough from likely targets to be an official destination for evacuees . The town 's proximity to Manchester , an industrial centre directed towards the war effort , did result in a number of bombing raids . Incendiaries dropped on Sale in September 1940 caused no casualties , but did damage a house . In a bombing incident the following November , four people were injured and a school was damaged ; on 22 December 1940 , twelve people were injured by bombs . On the night of 23 December , much of Manchester suffered heavy bombing in what became known as the Manchester Blitz . Six hundred incendiary bombs were dropped on Sale in three hours . There were no injuries , but Sale Town Hall was severely damaged . On 3 August 1943 , at 11 : 50 pm , a Wellington Bomber on a training exercise crashed in Walton Park in the south @-@ west of the town . Of the six @-@ man crew , consisting of five members of the Royal

Australian Air Force and one member of the Royal Air Force , the pilot and the bomb @-@ aimer were killed .

Sale 's shopping centre was redeveloped during the 1960s , as part of the town 's post @-@ war regeneration . In 1973 , the shopping precinct in the town centre , which had grown up in the mid @-@ 19th century , was also redeveloped and pedestrianised in an attempt to increase trade . The construction of the M63 motorway (subsequently renamed the M60) in 1972 led to the creation of Sale Water Park . To minimise the risk of flooding , the new road was built on an embankment , for which the necessary gravel was extracted from what is today an artificial lake and water @-@ sports centre . Opportunities for leisure were increased when the old swimming baths , demolished in 1971 , were replaced in 1973 by a new complex built on the same site .

= = Governance = =

Historically , Sale was a township in the ancient parish of Ashton upon Mersey in the hundred of Bucklow and county of Cheshire . Throughout the Middle Ages it was governed by the Lord of the Manor . Following the Poor Law Amendment Act 1834 , Sale was joined with the Altrincham Poor Law Union , an inter @-@ parish unit established to provide social security . The unit changed its name to Bucklow Poor Law Union in 1895 . Sale adopted the Local Government Act 1858 in November 1866 , and Sale Local Board was formed to govern the township at the beginning of 1867 . Members were elected to the local board by the town 's ratepayers . A household had one vote for every £ 10 (£ 800 as of 2016) of rateable value . Under the Local Government Act 1888 Sale became an urban district of the administrative county of Cheshire . The local board was replaced by Sale Urban District Council in 1894 . The parish of Ashton upon Mersey became an urban district in 1895 . In 1930 , the Ashton upon Mersey UD was merged into Sale UD under a county review order .

In December 1933 , Sale Urban District submitted a petition to the Privy Council in an attempt to gain a charter of incorporation . At the time , Sale UD had the largest population and highest rateable value of any urban district in the country . The petition was successful and on 21 September 1935 Sale UD was granted borough status , and became the Municipal Borough of Sale . Following the Local Government Act 1972 , on 1 April 1974 the Municipal Borough of Sale was abolished . Sale became an unparished area of the Metropolitan Borough of Trafford , a local government district of the metropolitan county of Greater Manchester . The town 's education , town planning , waste collection , health , social care and other services are administered by Trafford Council .

For national elections , Sale was in the parliamentary constituency of Altrincham and Sale from 1945 until 1997 , when it was split between Altrincham and Sale West and Wythenshawe and Sale East . The Altrincham and Sale West constituency is one of the Conservative Party 's two seats in Greater Manchester . The Sale area consists of five electoral wards , which between them have 15 of the 63 seats on the council . The wards are Ashton upon Mersey , Brooklands , Priory , Sale Moor , and St. Mary 's . As of the 2012 local elections , the Conservative Party held nine of the seats and the Labour Party held six .

= = Geography = =

At 53 ° 25 ? 29 ? N 2 ° 19 ? 19 ? W (53 @.@ 4246 , ? 2 @.@ 322) , Sale lies respectively to the north and south of the neighbouring towns of Altrincham and Stretford , and 5 miles (8 km) south @-@ west of Manchester city centre . The district of Wythenshawe is to the southeast . Sale is in the Mersey Valley , about 100 feet (30 m) above sea level on generally flat ground . The River Mersey , which runs just north of the town , is prone to flooding during heavy rains , so the Sale Water Park , close to the town 's northern boundary , acts as an emergency flood basin . The man @-@ made , and thus more controllable , Bridgewater Canal runs through the centre of the town .

Sale 's local drift geology consists of sand and gravel deposited about 10 @,@ 000 years ago , during the last ice age . The bedrock is Bunter sandstone in the west and Triassic waterstone in the

east . United Utilities obtains the town 's drinking water from the Lake District . Sale 's climate is generally temperate , like the rest of Greater Manchester . The mean highest and lowest temperatures (13 @. @ 2 ° C (55 @. @ 8 ° F) and 6 @. @ 4 ° C (43 @. @ 5 ° F)) are slightly above the national average , while the annual rainfall (806 @. @ 6 millimetres (31 @. @ 76 in)) and average hours of sunshine (1394 @. @ 5 hours) are respectively above and below the national averages .

The town 's main districts are Ashton upon Mersey in the northwest , Sale Moor in the southeast , and Brooklands in the southwest . The main commercial area is Sale town centre , in the central northern area of the town , but smaller commercial centres are also found in Ashton upon Mersey and Sale Moor . Brooklands is the most densely populated area . Most of the parks , including Worthington and Walton , are in the central and southern areas , leaving Ashton upon Mersey and Sale Moor with a shortage of accessible green space .

Sale 's built environment is varied , with a mixture of modern and old buildings . Some terraces , semi @-@ detached houses and villas , survive from the Victorian period , although many of the larger houses have been converted into flats . Many semi @-@ detached houses survive from the 1930s , when there was a need for new housing in the town as a result of a growing population and an increasingly wealthy middle class . Interspersed with these older structures are newer housing developments , such as the estates built in Ashton upon Mersey and the east of Sale during the 1970s .

= = Demography = =

As of the 2001 UK census , Sale had a population of 55 @, @ 234 . The 2001 population density was 12 @, @ 727 inhabitants per square mile (4 @, @ 914 / km2) , with a 100 to 94 @. @ 2 female @-@ to @-@ male ratio . Of those over 16 years old , 30 @. @ 0 % were single (never married) , 51 @. @ 3 % married and 7 @. @ 8 % divorced . Although the proportion of divorced people was similar to that of Trafford and England , the rates of those who were single and married were significantly different from the national and Trafford averages (Trafford : 44 @. @ 3 % single , 35 @. @ 6 % married ; England : 44 @. @ 3 % single , 34 @. @ 7 % married) . Sale 's 24 @, @ 027 households included 32 @. @ 2 % one @-@ person , 37 @. @ 8 % married couples living together , 8 @. @ 3 % were co @-@ habiting couples , and 8 @. @ 5 % single parents with their children , these figures were similar to those of Trafford and England . Of those aged 16 ? 74 , 22 @. @ 3 % had no academic qualifications , similar to that of 24 @. @ 7 % in all of Trafford but significantly lower than 28 @. @ 9 % in all of England . Sale had a much higher percentage of adults with a diploma or degree than Greater Manchester as a whole . Of Sale residents aged 16 ? 74 , 26 @. @ 7 % had an educational qualification such as first degree , higher degree , qualified teacher status , qualified medical doctor , qualified dentist , qualified nurse , midwife , or health visitor , compared to 20 % nationwide .

Originally a working class town , there was an influx of middle class people in the mid @-@ 19th century when businessmen began using Sale as a commuter town . Since then , Sale has had a greater proportion of middle class residents than the national average . In 1931 , 22 @. @ 7 % of Sale 's population was middle class compared with 14 % in England and Wales , and by 1971 , this had increased to 36 @. @ 3 % compared with 24 % nationally . Parallel to this increase in the middle classes of Sale was the decline of the working class population . In 1931 , 20 @. @ 3 % were working class compared with 36 % in England and Wales ; by 1971 , this had decreased to 15 @. @ 4 % in Sale and 26 % nationwide . The rest of the population was made up of clerical workers and skilled manual workers . The change in social structure in the town was at a similar rate to that of the rest of the nation but was biased towards the middle classes , transforming Sale into the middle class town it is today .

= = = Population change = = =

According to the hearth tax returns of 1664 , the township of Sale had a population of about 365 .

Parish registers show that the area experienced steady population growth during the 17th and 18th centuries , more so during the latter half of the 19th century (due to the Industrial Revolution) . This later growth was less rapid than that seen in neighbouring areas such as Altrincham , Bowdon or Stretford . The increase in growth in the latter half of the 19th century also coincides with the arrival of the railway , indicative of Sale 's growth as a commuter town . A huge increase in population in 1921 ? 1931 is accounted for by the administrative merger of Sale with Ashton upon Mersey in 1930 . Steady growth thereon is evident until 1981 , when the decline of industry in Trafford and the Greater Manchester area accounts for a reduction in the town 's population . This follows the general population trend for Greater Manchester , with residents relocating to new jobs . The table below details population changes since 1801 , including the percentage change since the last census .

= = Economy = =

During the medieval period , most of the land was used for growing crops and raising livestock such as cattle . The produce from arable farming would have been sufficient to support the local population , but the cattle would have been sold to the ruling classes . Agriculture provided the main source of employment for Sale 's residents until the mid @-@ 19th century . Industry was slow to develop in the area , as in most of what would become Trafford . This was partly because of the reluctance of the two main land owners in the area , the Stamfords and the de Traffords , to invest . Although weaving was common in Sale during the late 17th and early 18th century , by 1851 only 4 % of the population was employed in that industry .

Along with the rest of the region , Sale 's economy during the early @-@ 19th century was weak , a state of affairs which persisted until the arrival of the railway in the middle of the century . Despite the dominance of agriculture , there was a growing service industry ; Sale and Ashton upon Mersey experienced a growth in numbers employed in retail and domestic services in the first half of the 19th century . By 1901 , less than 20 % of Sale residents were employed in agriculture . Employment was available in workhouses for those who could not find work elsewhere . Sale was part of the Altrincham Union , which ran the nearest work house in Altrincham .

The main shopping centre in Sale , the Square Shopping Centre , was constructed in the 1960s . Following the Trafford Centre 's opening in 1998 , it was expected that the centre would suffer , but it has since prospered . In 2003 the Square Shopping Centre underwent a £ 7 million refurbishment , a major part of the redevelopment of Sale 's town centre . It was sold for £ 40M in 2005 , by which time the Square had experienced an increase in trade and demand for tenancy that had led to an increase of 70 % in rental income . The town 's economy expanded to the extent that in 2007 , at a time when the rest of south Manchester was oversupplied with office space , Sale 's available office and commercial space was at an all @-@ time low because of high demand .

According to the 2001 UK census , the industry of employment of residents aged 16 ? 74 was 18 @.@ 4 % property and business services , 15 @.@ 9 % retail and wholesale , 11 @.@ 1 % manufacturing , 10 @.@ 9 % health and social work , 9 @.@ 1 % education , 7 @.@ 8 % transport and communications , 6 @.@ 1 % construction , 6 @.@ 3 % finance , 4 @.@ 5 % public administration , 3 @.@ 8 % hotels and restaurants , 0 @.@ 7 % energy and water supply , 0 @.@ 5 % agriculture , 0 @.@ 2 % mining , and 4 @.@ 7 % other . Compared with national figures , the town had a relatively high percentage of residents working in property , business services and finance . The town had a relatively low percentage working in agriculture , public administration , and manufacturing . The census recorded the economic activity of residents aged 16 ? 74 , 2 @.@ 6 % students were with jobs , 3 @.@ 3 % students without jobs , 4 @.@ 9 % looking after home or family , 5 @.@ 2 % permanently sick or disabled , and 2 @.@ 3 % economically inactive for other reasons . The 2 @.@ 4 % unemployment rate of Sale was low compared with the national rate of 3 @.@ 3 % .

= = Culture = =

== Landmarks and attractions ==

Sale has three Grade II * listed buildings ? two churches (St. Martin and St. John the Divine) and Ashton New Hall ? and eighteen Grade II listed buildings . The cenotaph outside the town hall was designed by Ashton upon Mersey sculptor Arthur Sherwood Edwards and is a Grade II listed building . It commemorates the 400 men from Sale who died in the First World War and the 300 who died in the Second World War . The memorial consists of a statue of a mourning Saint George on top of a granite pedestal . Costing £ 600 (£ 31 thousand as of 2016) , it was funded by public subscription and unveiled in May 1925 in front of a crowd of 10 @, @ 000 .

The oldest surviving building in Sale is Eyebrow Cottage . Built around 1670 , it was originally a yeoman farmhouse and is one of the earliest brick buildings in the area . Its name is derived from the decorative brickwork above the windows . It was built in Cross Street , which at the time was a separate village from Sale . Of the twenty @-@ one conservation areas in Trafford , two are in Sale : Ashton upon Mersey and Brogden Grove .

A bronze bust of James Joule , the physicist who gave his name to the SI unit of energy , is in Worthington Park . Originally a tower was to have been erected in his honour , but lack of donations led to the production of the bust as a substitute ; it was unveiled in 1905 . Joule moved to Sale in the 1870s for his health ; he died at his home at 12 Wardle Road in 1889 , and is buried in Brooklands Cemetery .

The area has several parks and green spaces . Worthington Park , originally called Sale Park , was opened in 1900 . It features a bandstand , gardens , play areas , and a skate ramp and is maintained by Trafford Council and The Friends of Worthington Park . Opened in 1939 , Walton Park is in the southwest of the town and features a miniature railway . Sale Water Park is an artificial lake , created from a 35 @-@ metre (115 ft) deep gravel pit left during the construction of the M60 . It opened in 1980 and is a venue for water sports , fishing and bird watching . The water park is the site of the Broad Ees Dole wildlife refuge , a local nature reserve that provides a home for migratory birds .

== Events and venues ==

Situated next to the town hall , the Waterside Arts Centre houses a plaza , a library , the Robert Bolt Theatre , the Lauriston Gallery , and the Corridor Gallery . The centre , which was opened in 2004 , regularly hosts concerts , exhibitions and other community events . Performers have included comedian Lucy Porter , Midge Ure , Fairport Convention , The Zombies and Sue Perkins . In 2004 , the centre received the British Urban Regeneration Association Award for its innovative use of space and for reinvigorating Sale town centre .

Sale has a Gilbert and Sullivan society , formed in 1972 , which performs at the Altrincham Garrick Playhouse . The group is directed by Alistair Donkin , a former principal comic for the D 'Oyly Carte Opera Company . Members of the group have won several awards at the International Gilbert and Sullivan Festival . Sale Brass is a traditional brass band based in Sale , formed in about 1849 as the Stretford Temperance Band . Its first recorded performance was at the 1849 opening of the railway between Manchester and Altrincham .

== Sports ==

The rugby union side Sale F.C. has been based in Sale since 1861 and at its present Heywood Road ground since 1905 . One of the oldest rugby clubs in the world , its 1865 Minute Book is the oldest existing book containing the rules of the game . The professional Sale Sharks team was originally part of Sale F.C. but split from it in 2003 . Sale Sharks now play their matches at Salford City Stadium , although they retain the use of the Heywood Road ground for training and for the staging of home games involving their reserve team , Sale Jets . The town is also home to the Ashton upon Mersey and Trafford Metrovick rugby union clubs .

Sale Harriers Manchester Athletics Club was formed in 1911 , but is now based in nearby Wythenshawe . The club has produced successful athletes such as Olympic gold medallist Darren Campbell and Commonwealth Games gold medallist Diane Modahl , both former residents of the town . Sale Sports Club encompasses Sale Cricket Club , Sale Hockey Club , and Sale Lawn Tennis Club . The Brooklands Sports Club is home to Brooklands Cricket Club , Brooklands Manchester University Hockey Club , and Brooklands Hulmeians Lacrosse Club . It also provides facilities for squash , tennis , and bowling . Sale United FC plays at Crossford Bridge and was recognised as Trafford 's Sports Club of the Year in 2004 . Sale Golf Club and Ashton on Mersey Golf Club have courses on the outskirts of the town , and a municipal pitch and putt is based at Woodheys Park . Trafford Rowing Club has a boathouse beside the canal . Sale Leisure Centre has badminton and squash courts , a gymnasium and three swimming pools . Walton Park Sports Centre has a sports hall for activities such as 5 @-@ a @-@ side football . Tennis , crown @-@ green bowls , golf putting and football facilities are available at the town 's parks . Sale Water Ski Club is based at Sale Water Park .

= = Education = =

Sale 's first school was built in 1667 and was used until the first half of the 18th century . The second school in Sale was built some time in the 18th century , one of about 30 non @-@ grammar schools founded in Cheshire around this time . By 1831 , there were two private schools ? with the children 's parents paying fees for their education ? in Sale and one in Ashton upon Mersey . At the same time , there were also four Sunday schools in Sale and one in Ashton upon Mersey , operated by various religious denominations , including Congregationalists , Methodists , and Unitarians . The first school @-@ chapel built in Sale as part of a school was constructed by Primitive Methodists in 1839 , and still survives . The second school @-@ chapel in the town was St Joseph 's Roman Catholic Church , built in 1866 , and was replaced by the current school in 1899 .

Trafford maintains a selective education system assessed by the eleven plus exam . Sale has one grammar school , two secondary modern schools and nineteen primary schools . Sale Grammar School is a specialist school in science and the visual arts . It consists of two parts , one for 11- to 16 @-@ year @-@ olds and 900 pupils , and the other a sixth form college with 300 students . The school was described in its 2006 Ofsted report as " outstanding with an outstanding sixth form " . Ashton on Mersey School is a foundation secondary modern school and specialist Sports College . It has 1 @,@ 300 pupils aged 11 ? 16 and 80 students in its sixth form . In its 2008 Ofsted report it was rated " outstanding " . Sale High School , formerly Jeff Joseph Sale Moor Technology College , is a foundation secondary modern school for 11- to 16 @-@ year @-@ olds and specialist technology college . It has 1 @,@ 000 pupils and in its 2006 Ofsted report was rated as " satisfactory " . Manor Academy provides secondary education to pupils with special needs . It has 140 students aged 11 ? 16 and 20 members of its sixth form and was rated as " good " in its 2007 Ofsted report .

= = Religion = =

Sale is a diverse community with a synagogue and Christian churches of various denominations . The church buildings were mostly constructed in the late 19th or early 20th century in the wake of the population boom created by the arrival of the railway in 1849 , although records show that the Church of St Martin in Ashton upon Mersey dates back to at least 1304 . Before the English Reformation , the inhabitants of Sale were predominantly Catholic , but afterwards were members of the Church of England . Roman Catholics returned to the area in the 19th century in the form of Irish immigrants . Two of the three Grade II * listed buildings in the town are churches . The Church of St Martin , which was probably originally an early 14th century timber framed structure , was rebuilt in 1714 after the church had been destroyed in a storm . The Church of St John the Divine was built in 1868 , to the design of Alfred Waterhouse . There are three Grade II listed churches in Sale : the Church of St Anne ; the Church of St Mary Magdalene ; and the Church of St Paul .

As of the 2001 UK census , 78 % of Sale residents reported themselves as Christian , 4 % Muslim , 7 % Hindu , 6 % Jewish , 2 % Buddhist and 2 % Sikh . A further 12 % had no religion , 2 % had an alternative religion , and 5 % did not state their religion . Sale is part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Shrewsbury , and the Church of England Diocese of Chester . Sale and District Synagogue is part of United Synagogue under the aegis of the Chief Rabbi of Britain , Jonathan Sacks . The only mosque in Trafford is the Masjid E Noor in Old Trafford , three miles (5 km) away .

= = Transport = =

The first turnpike road in the area was the latter day A56 Chester Road between Manchester and Crossford Bridge (on the border between Sale and Stretford) . Turnpike trusts collected tolls from road users and used the proceeds to maintain the highway . There was a toll booth on the Sale side of Crossford Bridge . Another section of road between Altrincham and Crossford Bridge was turnpiked in 1765 . The commencement of " swift packet " services on the newly opened Bridgewater Canal in 1776 made commuting from Sale into Manchester both practical and convenient , with boats travelling at a relatively swift 10 mph (16 km / h) . However the arrival in 1849 of the Manchester , South Junction and Altrincham Railway sounded a death knell for both the canal packet services and turnpike trusts . Many trusts went into terminal decline , mirroring a national trend . By 1888 almost all roads and highways were the responsibility of the local authority . Sale 's railway station , originally named Sale Moor , was renamed to Sale in 1856 . Three years later Brooklands railway station was opened , followed in 1931 by the opening of Dane Road railway station along with the electrification of the entire line . The line was renovated in the early 1990s and is now part of the Metrolink .

Following the completion of a tramway between Manchester and Stretford in 1901 , the British Electric Traction Company applied to Parliament for an extension to Sale . The proposal was amended to continue the line further south , into Altrincham . The line through Sale was owned by Sale Urban District Council and leased to the Manchester Corporation . Services to Sale commenced in 1907 . A branch along Northenden Road from the line to Sale Moor was created in 1912 . Sale Moor 's line had only a single track which in 1925 resulted in a head on collision between two tramcars , injuring eight passengers . Bus services were first introduced to the area in the 1920s , but became more widespread in the 1930s . The buses did not suffer the drawback of being limited to tracks and were therefore more practical than the tram services , which from the 1930s went into decline . The tramlines along Northenden Road were removed between 1932 and 1934 , and throughout Sale in the 1940s .

The Metrolink system connects Sale with other locations in Greater Manchester . Trams depart the town 's three stations at least every 12 minutes between 07 : 00 and 22 : 30 every day . The nearest main line railway station is Navigation Road in Altrincham , from where trains run to Manchester Piccadilly , Stockport and Chester . Bus routes operated by various companies provide services to Manchester and to Altrincham . The A56 road runs between Chester and North Yorkshire via Sale , Manchester , and Burnley , and the M60 motorway ? which encircles Manchester ? can be accessed via junction 7 , just to the north of Sale . The M56 and M62 motorways are about 4 miles (6 km) away , and the M6 motorway , which runs between Warwickshire and Gretna , is about 7 miles (11 km) to the west . Manchester Airport , the busiest airport in the UK outside the London area , is 4 miles (6 km) to the south .