



We see our school as:

- an outstanding girls' grammar school with academy status, where sustained high standards are expected and excellence encouraged in all areas
- a place where students are challenged, supported and learn to think for themselves
- a happy, caring and safe community – almost a family – where every individual is valued, respected and nurtured to develop their full academic and personal potential

We aim to:

- inspire the love of learning, encouraging a spirit of intellectual enquiry and experimentation
- provide a stimulating learning environment where all achievements are celebrated
- enable students to be independent learners and take responsibility for their own learning
- equip them with the skills for life in the wider local, national and global community beyond school in a world of rapid change
- be responsive to the needs of every individual
- foster enthusiasm for life and eagerness to grow in order that they can realise their dreams, hopes and aspirations
- give students the confidence and courage to face life positively and be valuable members of the wider community

We value:

- the development of the whole person
- the strong community spirit and sense of belonging in the school
- excellence in all things, including high academic standards but equally in other fields
- respect, courtesy and consideration for others, compassion and kindness
- self-discipline, hard work and effort
- self-esteem and self-awareness
- creativity, independence of thought, intellectual curiosity and adaptability
- strength through diversity and involving everyone
- a sense of humour
- high moral standards, including integrity, honesty, truth, reliability, loyalty and a sense of fairness

Reviewed June 2017

Governors' Strategic Statement

The governors of the school intend:

1. to maintain the school as a selective girls' grammar school with academy status
2. to provide a caring and disciplined environment in which each student can achieve their full academic and personal potential and be fully prepared for life beyond school
3. to provide a supportive working environment for all staff, to value and respect them and their work, and to enable them to provide education of the highest quality
4. to promote a sense of community and mutual respect between governors, staff, pupils and parents so that the school continues to develop as a centre of excellence and all-round education.

Governors' Curriculum Aims

We aim to provide all students with a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum which fulfils the school's aims, is ideally matched to the needs and aspirations of the students and provides excellent opportunities for students to learn and to experience achievement and success. To ensure statutory requirements are met, all subjects of the National Curriculum, together with religious education and drama, are taught in Years 7-9, and a wide range of GCSE courses offered in Years 10-11 on top of a strong core curriculum comprising triple science and a modern foreign language as well as Maths, English Language, English Literature and Religious Studies. Citizenship is taught as part of the personal, social and health education (PSHE) programme. Computing is taught as a discrete subject in Years 7-9 and as an option at GCSE and A-level. The use of ICT is encouraged across the curriculum in all years. The school offers a wide range of advanced level courses which provide a very effective bridge between GCSE studies and higher education. Rigorous systems are in place to ensure that the needs of individual students are met. The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and work experience form part of the extended curriculum for the sixth form. The school offers an excellent array of extra-curricular activities and well-planned educational visits to enrich the curriculum. These are well supported by the pupils.

Preparation for life: to

- enhance knowledge and develop skills and to provide experience to meet the changing demands of an increasingly technological society.
- develop in the students social awareness, self-confidence and a positive attitude to responsibilities and future roles in society.
- encourage each student to develop a sense of enjoyment and continuing interest in learning.
- develop in each student an understanding of and respect for the religious and ethical values of their own culture and for those of other races and cultures.

Personal development: to

- provide opportunities for individual development so that the students become independent, positive, confident, mature and responsible.
- develop each student's full individual potential in order to achieve high personal standards and encourage an awareness of their own strengths and weaknesses.
- foster the ability to work individually and also to contribute effectively to group work.
- encourage extra-curricular activities.

Skills: to

- develop intellectual, interpersonal, physical and practical skills and aesthetic appreciation.
- develop the communication skills of writing, speaking and listening.
- encourage students to see the curriculum as a whole and to appreciate cross-curricular links between subject areas and to integrate skills achieved in those different areas.

Revised June 2017