



Farlington's Vision

We educate for confidence. Your daughter is unique; we foster her individuality. She is happy, she succeeds, she flourishes. We are proudly and intentionally a small school where each girl is known and where each girl gets big opportunities. Neither anonymity nor mediocrity is an option here.

In this very demanding world your daughter needs to be aware of the pressures she may face and be able to respond to these in an informed, educated and moral way. In this world where there are so many trivialities each girl needs to have clear values and a love of learning which enables her to grow. She needs to be confident of herself, her abilities and her ideas, and able to express and further develop these throughout her life. She should not be afraid to take risks and to push herself out of her comfort zone. She should be aware of the needs of others and of the environment. The staff work as a team to help your daughter become an informed and active member of society – someone who can make a difference.

The staff at Farlington is the School's greatest asset. We are fortunate to have a strong team of dedicated teachers and support staff who are all working to provide the best education and environment for the pupils. The staff's commitment to their specialised areas is second to none, and their pastoral care for and interest in the girls is embedded in all we do.

Farlington offers a superb, holistic education but we are not complacent; we are committed to the continuous development and improvement of our delivery of that education.

Teaching and Learning

We are proud of our broad intake and the amount of value that we add. We do not believe in compartmentalised education; social, moral, physical, spiritual and cultural growth are not separate from what happens in the classroom. Farlington girls are listened to, inspired and understood as individuals. We believe in creative thinking and the true application of education. Each child is helped to develop their individual identity and to find success in every direction. We encourage girls, and boys in the nursery, to raise their own expectations of achievement. Our approach involves excellent teaching coupled with clearly set targets and positive encouragement throughout their school life. Clear lines of communication ensure a successful partnership between home and school.

Throughout the School we will continue to develop Assessment for Learning initiatives which help promote independent and lifelong learning. We will continue to focus on the individual and to provide the support, challenge and care each needs. We will continue to deliver an holistic education.

We are an ECO School, already with Silver status and aiming for Green Flag. Over the next five years we will develop an outdoor learning environment, to include a dipping platform, outdoor classroom,

wild flower meadow, nesting boxes and a greenhouse growing vegetables on a hydroponic system. This will be of huge benefit to our own girls and also available to local primary schools.

Farlington, Prep and Senior, is one School, but clearly the curriculum focus is different at different Key Stages:

In the Prep School we will embed AfL throughout, with an emphasis on marking and teacher assessment based on AfL principles. We will further develop our Gifted and Talented Programme. In all curriculum areas, we will pursue ideas for sustainability and in each Key Stage we will promote care for the environment.

We will make increasing use of the 'outdoor classroom'; including the former farm area and we will develop the space behind the New Courtyard Hall for outdoor activities and creative play.

In the Senior School we are introducing a cross-curricular faculty system from September 2010. This innovative and exciting initiative will provide even stronger academic and pastoral support mechanisms for the girls. It will further encourage cross-curricular and speculative thinking, leading to a more profound understanding. It will also enable even more streamlined responses to concerns and shared strategies.

We will continue to promote the AQA Bacc and Extended Project Qualification, which stretch the most able at A level. We will increase our provision of adult education classes, currently offered in Art and History of Art. Our Lifeskills programme has been overhauled and we will continue to develop this and help equip our girls for the increasing demands of the 21st century world.

Our programme of conferences to which other schools are invited will continue to expand. To date we have had successful ESOL, History of Art and Psychology conferences

The House system will be strengthened and there will be more emphasis on charity work to help further raise the girls' awareness and give additional opportunities for both leadership roles and developing teamwork skills.

Pupil Welfare and Safeguarding Children

The welfare of our pupils is of paramount importance to us and will continue to be so. Farlington is committed to the safeguarding of children and we follow clear safeguarding procedures, beyond statutory requirements.

We actively promote the outcomes of 'Every Child Matters' and will continue to do so. These are:

Being Healthy

Staying Safe

Enjoying and Achieving

Making a Positive Contribution

Achieving Economic Well-Being

We regularly audit our provision and continually make improvements.

As new technologies become available, enabling pupils to have access to the internet during the school day without accessing the School wireless system and being protected by its firewall, we will take

active steps to provide what technological protection we can but, more importantly to continue to educate both pupils and parents about internet safety.

Boarding adds a very important dimension to Farlington. For the girls who board, Farlington is their home and this adds a special atmosphere to the whole school. The presence of a mix of nationalities and cultures broadens the horizons of every girl in the school and adds greatly to the development of their cultural awareness. When the Boarding House is not completely full we are very happy to offer flexi-boarding to families who benefit from occasional use (this facility is only available to girls in Prep 5 or above). There is a continual programme of refurbishment of the Boarding House, responding to the wishes of the girls and ensuring they continue to enjoy both a family atmosphere and a high standard of accommodation.

Leadership, Governance and Management

Farlington is fortunate in its Governing body. Each member is committed to the School and gives freely of his/her time and expertise. The range of expertise is impressive and important for the School, and includes education, finance, law, building regulations and planning, and human resources.

The restructured Senior Leadership Team will be embedded and leadership at all levels, SLT/MLT/individual staff and pupils, will be a training focus. Communication throughout the School and between home and School will continue to be improved, both through formal and informal means and by a variety of media, although we certainly aim to keep the all important personal touch as well.

We will continue to seek for ways to develop our public benefit provision and to contribute to community cohesion. For example: we will continue to provide a teacher once a week to at least one local primary school; we will seek to offer more events involving local primary schools, such as Art competitions, netball tournaments and science challenges; our range of adult education classes will increase; we will continue to add value and to demonstrate particular success in science; we will develop the outdoor learning environment which could benefit up to 3000 primary children locally.

The Farlington Foundation and the Farlington Association will continue to grow and to strengthen further the whole Farlington community, past, present and future. Opportunities for parents to be involved in PTA activities will increase and the PTA's aims of strengthening the social bonds between parents and raising 'icing on the cake' funds will grow from strength to strength.

In both the Senior School and the Prep School we will ensure that, in the face of ever more frequent and often too hasty Government initiatives, we continue to focus on providing the best holistic education for each of our pupils.

Business

Farlington will become more widely known and will be the local school of choice for parents but we will remain a small school as this enables us to know each pupil and to respond to individual needs, challenges and concerns.

Annual space audits will inform our planning. We have recently completed a major build which has significantly enhanced facilities for our pupils throughout the School; a new Hall, kitchen and dining areas, new classrooms for the pre-prep school and for the senior school, new library facilities for the prep school, a common room for Year 11 girls, a new medical centre for the whole school and a co-educational nursery.

Medium and longer term capital projects include: the outdoor learning environment (which will significantly enhance teaching and learning, and increase our public benefit provision); the redesign and/or resurfacing of the drive to ease the traffic flow and redevelopment of the Technology Courtyard.

This last is a major and exciting project which will provide a new and much smarter 'front face' for Farlington. As well as creating a new reception area for visitors and creating the opportunity for centralised administration, it will give us new classroom or open space and everyone will have their own ideas what to do with that! When the time comes (and the timing will be dictated partly by the economic climate which is beyond our control) we will seek suggestions from staff and parents and incorporate as many viable suggestions as possible.

All new buildings on the School site have to complement the existing Grade 2 buildings and we are very conscious that we must plan sympathetically and with consideration for environmental issues.

This vision will inform and underpin our annual School Development Planning and, where appropriate, Faculty and 'department' planning.

Farlington is a great School, one that will continue to grow in strength, become more widely known, oversubscribed and looking to an even brighter future