

## **GENERAL AIMS & PHILOSOPHY OF THE SCHOOL**

### **Statement of Intent**

We aim to provide an outstanding all-round education for girls and boys aged from 3 to 18 across two sites: the Junior School, which incorporates the Nursery, and the Senior School. At all ages, and in all areas, we aim to instil a common ethos that promotes above all else the key qualities of: care, co-operation, community, excellence, leadership and enjoyment; that celebrates endeavour in a very broad range of opportunities and experiences, and that prepares the children for life outside and beyond school.

We seek to provide the widest range of experiences, but also the opportunity for children to achieve their full potential. Children at Churcher's thrive in an atmosphere of high expectation but even higher achievement within a happy, well-disciplined, safe and caring environment.

Excellent examination results are clearly important; the achievement of these forms a core element of a child's time here, but equally, the development of self-esteem, resilience, tolerance, moral values and leadership are vitally important parts of a child's education.

We aim to inspire the pupils of Churcher's College to become confident, responsible, respectful and selfless citizens, in a world which will require gifted, flexible young people of character, dedication and compassion. By developing the full academic, creative and sporting talents of the girls and boys, within the context of non-denominational social and environmental awareness, our aim is to fully prepare them for all they will face in the dynamic and challenging world in which we live.

### **Philosophy of the School**

#### **Students**

- a. To develop self-esteem by encouraging and recognising involvement and achievements in activities both inside and outside the classroom and inside and outside school.
- b. To value all activities equally.
- c. To encourage personal and collective ambition, challenge and endeavour.
- d. To encourage academic independence, enterprise and to enjoy learning.
- e. To provide a range of opportunities and experiences to strengthen talents and key skills such as leadership, teamwork, sociability, loyalty, commitment, communication, sustainability, problem-solving, creative and critical thinking, integrity, competence and self-assurance.
- f. To offer equal opportunities to all students.
- g. To promote equality of opportunity based on protected characteristics such as gender, age, disability, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion and background.
- h. To promote a sense of physical and mental well-being.
- i. To prepare students for life beyond Churcher's.
- j. To facilitate access to the most appropriate pathway post Churcher's, including access to top universities and the most competitive courses.

- k To ensure education is placed in the context of the society in which we live.
- l To create an inclusive community for the students where parents and the local community are involved in school life, where there is a strong school:home partnership and an all pervading philanthropic spirit.
- m To provide a continuity of care, ethos and accomplishment from 3 years old to 18.
- n To extend support beyond Churcher's.
- o Matriculation:
  - a Junior School: admissions is holistic, partially based on standardised testing in reading, writing and maths but also includes consideration of other talents and emotional and social development.
  - b 11+: Entry assessment is not based solely on a written test though there is an expectation that compared to the specific age cohort nationally the entrant would be required to score at least the standardised average of 100.
  - c Sixth Form: Students may be accepted to the Sixth Form on the basis of their GCSE results. Students require a minimum of 33 points from their best six GCSE results with at least a Grade 7 or 8 in two subjects to be studied at A Level. This conditional entry requirement may be amended on a case-by-case basis and is subject to change over time.

### **Staff**

- a To celebrate and recognise the contribution of all staff, Teaching and Operational.
- b To aspire to be energetic, self-motivated and high achieving.
- c To promote inclusion / involvement of all into Churcher's school life both inside and outside the classroom
- d To encourage collective and personal ambition and development.
- e To inspire creativity and innovative approaches.
- f To promote positive mental health and well-being, and healthy home:work place balance.
- g To maintain a community of caring, collegiate staff.
- h To encourage all to lead by example.
- i To encourage a 'can do attitude'.
- j To continue to develop professionally.
- k To make an active contribution to the academic, pastoral and extra-curricular life of the school.