



SCHOOL AIMS

At Downe House we seek to enable, encourage and prepare our girls to play a full and positive part in the global world as outstanding young women of the future.

Specific aims

Academic

Our aspiration is for excellence in all we do. Within the classroom and outside it, we encourage girls to be aspirational, to seek to achieve more than they believe is possible. We will support them in this aim through the highest quality of teaching and through developing an environment which is intellectually stimulating and where intellectual curiosity, independent thought and debate are valued and encouraged.

Pastoral

Pastoral care is of the greatest importance. Creating an environment where girls can develop a strong set of values, underpinned by our Christian ethos, is central to the education we provide. Positive relationships between all members of our community (girls, staff, parents, alumnae, past parents and friends) will be based on compassion, tolerance and respect for each individual so that our community remains strong and vibrant.

Enrichment

Girls will have the opportunity to explore a wide variety of interests through a rich programme of co-curricular activities. They will also engage with the performing and creative arts gaining a better understanding of and engagement with each.

Leadership

All members of staff should lead by example and it is our aim to provide strong, effective, inspirational, innovative and compassionate leadership at all levels within the School.

Girls will be given the opportunity and confidence to develop as young leaders. They should have the confidence to stand up for what is right and to set an example to others.

Wellbeing: spiritual, physical and mental

The School is founded on Christian principles and values. Girls are given the opportunity to explore the Christian faith through regular worship in Chapel, confirmation classes and other faiths within their Religious Studies curriculum.

Encouraging a balanced and healthy lifestyle which includes physical fitness, a healthy diet and adequate sleep is recognised and promoted as fundamental to a girl's overall sense of wellbeing.

We will support girls to build their resilience by giving them the opportunity to be stretched intellectually, physically and emotionally. Confronting challenges, facing difficulties, embracing new opportunities and being exposed to risk where failure is a possible outcome will all be important experiences in developing strength of character.

Technology and Innovation

We will embrace the Technology available to us as well as the outcomes of recent educational research which will enhance our teaching and the girls' learning. Through our example, we will encourage girls to be innovative and provide them with the skills and confidence to embrace the best of the developments that are, and will continue to occur, in our fast-changing world.

Global Understanding and Experiences

Through our programme of links with schools and universities in the developing and developed worlds, themed days (China Day, Bab al Islam Day, America Day), visits, exchanges, talks and societies, we will encourage girls to develop into thoughtful, knowledgeable and outward-looking young women.

The Downe House Community and the Wider World

Breadth of experience is essential. As well as girls gaining a good understanding of the wider world, it is important for them to have exposure to experiences in the local community of Newbury and West Berkshire. This will be done through House charity links as well as collaborative projects with local schools and organisations.

Recruitment

Downe House will seek to attract pupils and staff who are committed to its values and its aims of creating a strong, vibrant, caring and creative full-boarding community.

Financial

Downe House will pursue a financial strategy which is prudent, but forward-looking, and enables the aims of the School's Strategic Development Plan to be met.

The Estate

The implementation of the Ten Year Vision will provide the School with the infrastructure and facilities to support the delivery of our educational aims and to remain competitive.

an adventure in education



Downe House

Cold Ash, Thatcham, Berkshire RG18 9JJ

t: 01635 204701

e: registrar@downehouse.net

www.downehouse.net