



St Mary's School

CAMBRIDGE

Policy on the Quality of the Educational Experience

2016-2017

Ethos

Mary Ward said 'Fervour is a will to do well. This is verity, to do what we have to do well. To do ordinary things well... will remain fervour'. St Mary's education programme is intended to give students the confidence to consider any walk of life to which they are fitted so that they might 'do much' in their particular calling.

Rationale

Quality is the responsibility of every person concerned with the school, and we must ensure the provision of a quality educational experience for all our pupils from the Early Years children to the Sixth Form, including our Boarders, within a quality environment.

The principles of this Policy underpin every aspect of the life and work of the School, and the people concerned with it, as they work to ensure a quality learning environment and quality learning experiences that lead to high standards in all aspects of School life.

Aims

- To recognise that we are all concerned with all aspects of quality.
- To ensure the provision of well planned, high quality learning experiences for our pupils.
- To ensure that pupils and staff recognise standards that are acceptable and unacceptable, showing mutual respect, consideration for others, politeness and good manners.
- To see that value is placed on work at all levels within the life of the School.
- To see that goals set are such that pupils achieve to their fullest potential and quality pieces of work are developed.
- To encourage everybody concerned with our School to achieve their best wherever and whenever possible.

Broad guidelines

The quality of the expected outcome is borne in mind when planning and carrying out the learning process.

At an appropriate age, pupils should be involved with the setting of quality indicators for their work and their environment.

Pupils should be made aware of what is expected of them as regards the quality and standards to be achieved, and the nature of engagement with the lessons.

Pupils have the right to be taught in an environment which is safe and inclusive, free from bullying, discrimination and in keeping with the provisions of the Equality Act (2010).

Pupils have the right to be taught in an environment free from disruption and where good classroom control is practised.

Performance indicators are set by the teachers in their planning, leading to the achievement of the performance indicators in the main School Development Plan.

To evaluate our standards in the light of experience gained and the ongoing development of the school, its pupils and staff.

Teachers and older students are encouraged to lead academic societies to meet in extra-curricular time for the promotion of their subject and for the furthering of academic aspiration beyond the confines of examination specifications.

Teachers should take advantage of the opportunities for pupils to benefit from local institutions such as Cambridge University, the Fitzwilliam Museum, the Cambridge Arts Theatre, the Botanical Gardens so that they can learn and perform in enriching surroundings.

Visiting speakers are encouraged in school, for example in lunchtime Library talks, in assemblies or in lessons.

Educational visits at home and abroad, including language exchanges and cultural expeditions, form part of the wider curriculum, and may take place both within the school timetable when it can be shown there will be minimal impact on teaching and learning and in the holidays.

Review of Policy

The Head of Juniors and the SS Deputy Head (Academic) are responsible for this Policy.

This Policy will be reviewed by the Governance Committee of the Governing Body in September 2017.