

AIMS and OBJECTIVES

The School's vision statement

Ballard School provides a supportive and caring environment for learning, based on Christian values and excellent teaching, designed to ensure all pupils achieve their personal best. High academic standards, together with thorough preparation for future education and the world of work, are underpinned by an ethos of concern for others, unselfish attitudes and an awareness of the rights and duties of a good citizen. The diverse range of activities and broad curriculum nurture the self-confidence of all our pupils, and help the development of their personality, engendering also lifelong interests and stimulating a desire to serve the community.

Aims

The aims of the school may be summarised as follows:

- To identify and build on strengths to help each individual pupil **reach their potential** within a secure, caring community and to equip our young people to be well-behaved, resilient, rounded and resourceful members of society and prepared for their future working lives
- To aim for **academic excellence**, so that each individual pupil may achieve his or her personal best. We believe all our pupils are entitled to an education that **extends beyond the purely academic**. Pupils are actively encouraged to take part in a wide range of artistic, creative, cultural, musical, sporting and other extra-curricular activities
- To **recognise the worth, dignity and contribution** of each member of the Ballard Family and to foster self-discipline, self-esteem, mutual respect and co-operation within an atmosphere of friendship and trust promoting an appreciation of the needs and gifts of others
- To offer scope for **spiritual, moral and personal development** within a disciplined and mutually supportive environment which affirms Christian values
- To expect high standards of achievement by developing in pupils the ability to manage change, to think and **research independently and communicate confidently** and effectively
- To **celebrate our achievements**, gifts and diversity irrespective of individual differences
- To respond to the **wider needs** of society through community projects, charitable fundraising and outreach and by increasing awareness of local, national and world issues

Alastair Reid (Headmaster) – the aims were first established in this format in 2009 and then revised in March 2015, as above