



Ballard School

Vision, Aims, Charter and Outcomes

Introduction: The School has a **vision statement** which defines what we are and what we continue to aspire towards. The seven **aims** which follow add detail to our vision. The **Ballard Charter** is a summary of our seven key values. We also have seven **pupil outcomes** (what we want Ballard pupils to be exhibiting and owning as they leave us after Y11) and there are two versions of this: a pupil one and a staff one.

A. The School vision statement and aims:

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:

1. 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
2. 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
3. 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
4. To offer scope for **spiritual, moral and personal development** within a disciplined and mutually supportive environment which affirms Christian values
5. 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
6. To **celebrate our achievements**, gifts and diversity irrespective of individual differences
7. 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

B. The School Charter (the Ballard Bees)

- Be respectful
- Be responsible
- Be honest
- Be safe
- Be positive
- Be kind
- Be curious

C. Expected pupil outcomes

The staff version of the 'student outcomes' (as devised by the staff meeting)

A Ballard pupil should develop and increasingly demonstrate ...

1. *Trustworthiness, accountability, personal integrity and self-discipline resulting in well-mannered behaviour, a caring and inclusive approach, respect for others, a willingness to serve and positive work habits. This will all lead to a strong sense of self-worth arising from a healthy experience of being accepted and loved, able to make positive and inclusive friendships and being tolerant of people's differences.*
2. *The motivation and self-discipline to reach his/her full potential in all areas of life (academic and extra-curricular) and the ability to celebrate appropriately their own success and that of others.*
3. *The ability to think critically and independently, to question and to communicate coherently, orally, in writing and using IT skills.*
4. *An understanding of the Christian faith whilst being respectful of those of other faiths or of none.*
5. *A sensitive, informed and responsible approach to the use of our environment, facilities and resources in school, in our communities and in the world at large.*
6. *The ability to live in a complex world making informed independent choices towards a balanced, healthy life style and developing the social skills to be a good citizen.*
7. *A willingness to embrace a sense of adventure, to have fun in a positive way so as to bring joy and fulfilment to others, and the ability to learn from setbacks, success and failure.*

The pupil version of the 'student outcomes' (as devised by the School Council)

A Ballard pupil should develop and increasingly demonstrate....

1. *Respect and kindness to all. Responsibility for own actions. The ability to understand people and make friendships. The ability to feel good about yourself.*
2. *The ability to "set the bar high" and reach goals by trying their best.*
3. *The ability to think well for oneself and make a good argument in a variety of ways.*
4. *Understanding and respect for Christianity and different religions.*
5. *Respect for all environments and an understanding of "green" issues.*
6. *The ability to cope with modern life, staying healthy and being a good citizen.*
7. *The ability to try different things and enjoy the challenge. To keep going, even if they fail.*

D. The aims, 'bees' and outcomes combined:

1. 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 **[Be safe]**

Trustworthiness, accountability, personal integrity and self-discipline resulting in well-mannered behaviour, a caring and inclusive approach, respect for others, a willingness to serve and positive work habits. This will all lead to a strong sense of self-worth arising from a healthy experience of being accepted and loved, able to make positive and inclusive friendships and being tolerant of people's differences.

2. 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 **[Be curious]**

The motivation and self-discipline to reach his/her full potential in all areas of life (academic and extra-curricular) and the ability to celebrate appropriately their own success and that of others.

3. 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 **[Be honest]**

Trustworthiness, accountability, personal integrity and self-discipline resulting in well-mannered behaviour, a caring and inclusive approach, respect for others, a willingness to serve and positive work

habits. This will all lead to a strong sense of self-worth arising from a healthy experience of being accepted and loved, able to make positive and inclusive friendships and being tolerant of people's differences.

4. To offer scope for **spiritual, moral and personal development** within a disciplined and mutually supportive environment which affirms Christian values **[Be kind]**

An understanding of the Christian faith whilst being respectful of those of other faiths or of none.

5. 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 **[Be positive]**

The ability to think critically and independently, to question and to communicate coherently, orally, in writing and using IT skills.

6. To **celebrate our achievements**, gifts and diversity irrespective of individual differences **[Be respectful]**

A willingness to embrace a sense of adventure, to have fun in a positive way so as to bring joy and fulfilment to others, and the ability to learn from setbacks, success and failure.

7. 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 **[Be responsible]**

A sensitive, informed and responsible approach to the use of our environment, facilities and resources in school, in our communities and in the world at large.

The ability to live in a complex world making informed independent choices towards a balanced, healthy life style and developing the social skills to be a good citizen.

[First devised in September 2009 and revised each year subsequently. This version June 2017]

Alastair Reid (Headmaster)