



Dear Parent/Carer,

As a school we of course recognise just how precious our children are. We recognise, too, that parents simply want the best for their children. It should come as no surprise that we want the best for all children; your child too. That's not always so clear cut as what may be in their immediate best interests may well not balance with their long-term interests.

We also recognise that very occasionally with around 1200 students on site, every day, studying over 30 subjects things go wrong. There may be academic or friendship issues, a timetabling issue, pastoral, or well-being issues. It might be a missed email or an issue with one of the countless activities, opportunities, trips or visits that we offer as a school. It might be as simple as lost property or perhaps a query over a sanction.

We recognise that your child is important to you and that therefore occasionally frustrations may arise, but I ask you to recognise that your daughter is no more, or less, important than any of our girls. They are all somebody's daughters and they are all our FSG girls. Our staff go to huge lengths to make their school experience as fulfilling and full as it can possibly be. I can think of few schools that offer such an extensive array of trips and such a staggering amount of personal development and character education opportunities through our FSGBacc programme. Alongside outstanding academic results, this ethos and curriculum has proved extremely popular. The school is full and routinely oversubscribed with around 400 students competing annually for just 180 places. Student, parental and staff surveys are extremely positive. The school is an asset to our community and for any place that becomes available we could easily fill that place several times over.

As public servants, we serve your child and all our girls to the very best of our ability. From delivering food hampers to families in need during lockdown to the hundreds of hours of staff time at weekends and in holidays to offer school trips and opportunities such as The Duke of Edinburgh or the Combined Cadet Force, we are 100% confident in saying that we leave no stone unturned for each and every child. One of our mantras is that we focus on the whole child/every child. I am confident that we live that ideal day in/day out. I can think of no school that can surpass what we achieve here at FSG in all arenas be they academic, pastoral, or personal development.

All parents, and students, sign a home school agreement to support the school and its policies and procedures; to follow the school curriculum, to obey uniform codes, honour any school based sanction and the like. Should these no longer be acceptable to you or your daughter, you have every right to withdraw your child and find an alternative placement. That is also your responsibility.

The best outcomes for children undoubtedly come when school, parents and child work together in a positive, polite and constructive manner. We trust that parents will therefore support the school; that they will be courteous and polite in their dealings and communications with staff and will recognise all that our staff do, bring and give to all the girls at The Folkestone School for Girls.

We cannot and will not tolerate abusive, aggressive, or threatening language or tone - be that face to face, over the phone or via email. Our student development leaders, as the first point of contact, are too often spoken to in a manner which is rude, aggressive, threatening and we/they will not accept that. We will respond politely and promptly to queries or concerns but communication home is not instantaneous and we will act should requests or demands become vexatious. Should any member of staff feel that they are being addressed in an aggressive manner they will issue a warning that should this continue the call or meeting will be terminated.

Yours Sincerely

Mark Lester
Principal