Welcome Aboard

The start of any journey is an exciting opportunity for new experiences and self discovery. Here, at The Folkestone School for Girls, we pride ourselves on offering an outstanding education within an inspiring, challenging and stimulating environment.

We are committed to excelling in all that we do and expect our girls to share and exhibit these same high standards for themselves. We aim for and achieve outstanding academic results, but are equally concerned to foster creativity, to encourage courtesy and sensitivity towards others and to develop integrity, self-discipline, self-confidence and a sense of fun.

Our academic curriculum, therefore, is only a part of what we do. We also encourage all our girls to explore other interests and to take part in the wider life of the school through our many co-curricular opportunities; be that debating society, music, dance, drama, sports, Young Enterprise, Duke of Edinburgh award, Combined Cadet Force (CCF)....the list goes on.

Our aim is to provide an outstanding academic curriculum, outstanding teaching and outstanding opportunities and experiences to ensure our girls leave as well-qualified and well-rounded young women. They will have a strong portfolio of academic qualifications, highly developed interpersonal skills and a broad range of interests. They will be well prepared to pursue varied, fulfilling careers and to take on the world!

Mr Mark Lester, Principal.
A Safe Harbour

Whilst many schools focus almost entirely on their academic record, The Folkestone School for Girls is different. We are committed to the advancement of our girls in all areas of their lives and are always willing to go the extra mile to ensure their success.

We are a happy school with a relaxed but purposeful ethos. We aim to challenge our girls to do their best, to be their kindest, and to be the very best versions of themselves that they can be. With that challenge comes the support and care of a dedicated team of staff who pride themselves on supporting all elements of our girls’ progress in a welcoming, caring, supportive and fun environment where all girls can flourish.
Setting Direction

All journeys require a clear set of directions to keep us on the right course. Here, at The Folkestone School for Girls we are guided, on our journey, by a core belief in some fundamental principles. Above all, is the belief that qualifications are what girls get; they do not define who girls are and will play only a part in shaping who they become. With that in mind, clearly there must be a focus on life beyond the academic; our curriculum and our ethos aim to develop knowledge, skills and attributes in equal measure with time too, to just have fun.
Voyage of Discovery

The Folkestone School for Girls has a long established and enviable reputation of delivering outstanding academic results. However, in response to the questions posed by Aristotle all those years ago, we believe that education must maintain a balance between intellect and character. An outstanding education is not either/or. It is both.

Academically, there is naturally a focus on traditional, rigorous and academic subjects. Girls have plenty of scope for choice and personalisation at GCSE and beyond to reflect and pursue their own strengths, interests and aspirations for the future, and to study subjects that they have never encountered before.

However, girls do not complete an excessive amount of qualifications. This allows them time not only to focus efforts on achieving the very best grades within these, but also time to participate in co-curricular activities and interests, both at school and at home. There is time to spend with friends and family and time, too, to just be a child. A justifiable balance between intellect and character.

\[\text{\ldots consideration must be given to the question, what constitutes education and what is the proper way to be educated? At present there are differences of opinion as to the proper tasks to be set, for all peoples do not agree as to the things that the young ought to learn, either with a view to virtue or with a view to the best life, nor is it clear whether their studies should be regulated more with regard to intellect or with regard to character’}\]

- Aristotle
We are committed to personal development and character education with a bespoke programme in place to deliver this. Complementing our traditional, rigorous and academic curriculum, all girls take part in a personal challenge to develop attributes such as resilience, self-confidence, determination, teamwork and leadership. We call it The FSGBacc. This could be rock climbing on our new wall, mountain biking on our new trail or being in the cast or crew of the big school production— that challenge could be different for everyone. For some it might be completing their Duke of Edinburgh Award, for some it might be standing up in public and performing.

“It’s not just a pair of boots. It’s not just a rock face. It’s not just a bike ride. It’s not just an empty stage and a mic. It’s what they represent. It’s standing on your own two feet.”

All girls take part in a personal challenge curriculum, albeit on the stage, the sports field, the concert hall, through debating, Young Enterprise, CCF the list goes on… It’s not just a break from the classroom. It’s an essential part of our curriculum and an essential part of the girls development. Our aim is not just to prepare girls for exams—it is to prepare them for life.
A Treasure Trove of Achievements

Whether our students are excelling academically in the arts, or in the sports field, we always value and celebrate their achievements. Our GCSE and A level results are consistently outstanding and we have maintained a reputation for distinction over several years. We are keen to acknowledge achievement, progress and improvement wherever we see it. We have a strong tradition of excellence in the creative arts and our students are frequently given the opportunity to perform in plays, at concerts and recitals. Music, Dance and Drama are key areas of school life.

With a fitness suite, climbing wall, mountain bike trail, Krav Maga self defence classes, cheerleading, football, handball, cross country and table tennis, clearly sport and sport leadership is also a big part of the school.

We offer the chance to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, the CCF and a host of other opportunities. We also offer a stunning range of school trips. Girls have recently visited Washington, Ypres, Barcelona, France, Iceland and even Namibia.
By the time our students complete their journey with us, they are ready to take on the world. Having spent up to seven years acquiring excellent qualifications and developing as people, they are well prepared for the next stage of their journey. We are proud that our students leave us as happy, confident individuals ready to embrace the future. As independent and inspirational young women, our students are able to navigate their way to adulthood, charting a course to successful and fulfilling careers in whatever path they choose.