

ETHOS AND AIMS (as published in the Parent Handbook)

Ethos

At Vinehall we believe that every child is blessed with many talents and it is our purpose and duty to discover these talents and nurture them as best we can.

Vinehall is a close, caring and busy community in which staff and parents are expected to work very much as a team, with the children as our central concern. We value all members of the school community, whatever their role, and welcome initiative and ideas for school improvement.

We combine traditional teaching methods and high expectations with a forward-looking and flexible approach. The staff are dedicated professionals who seek to inspire. There is a school Chaplain and, while the ethos is grounded in Christianity, we welcome children of all faiths.

The school ethos is encapsulated in our motto is, ***'to do our best for the benefit of others'***.

Aims

As a school we aim to:

- Provide an excellent all-round education both academically and through an impressive range of extra-curricular activities. Throughout Vinehall we help all pupils reach the highest standards they can achieve, while acknowledging that each child is an individual. There are opportunities for all and those who are especially talented can reach the highest levels of attainment.
- Develop in each child independence, commitment and enthusiasm.
- Foster a spirit of mutual respect and kindness and encourage everyone to do their best for the community. Great importance is placed on the child's social development. This is fostered in a caring environment, where courtesy, self respect, and independence, as well as consideration for others, are highly valued.
- Encourage every child to participate fully in life and to learn about themselves and their place in the world.
- Encourage strong links with our parents and many retain long lasting links with the school.
- Provide a high quality and well resourced learning environment in which children can investigate, question and even make mistakes without experiencing a sense of failure. It is important that children experience success and understand that learning is fun.

A typical Vinehall child is a happy, busy and confident young person who communicates effectively with others. He or she understands the importance of teamwork in a community. Year 8 leavers receive a shield that marks their individual strengths and achievements and shields are displayed around the school.

At the end of their time at Vinehall, the children are thoroughly prepared for the next stage of their lives. They are active, positive young people with a range of interests. Vines are well-educated in a broad sense. The start that they have had at Vinehall academically, in the creative arts, through sports and in terms of confidence and personal development puts them in a strong position for future success in whatever terms suit them as an individual.