

THE FERRERS SCHOOL

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Higham Ferrers, a small town of 5,500, lies on the edge of the Nene Valley, close to the Cambridgeshire/Northamptonshire border. Higham Ferrers itself has a long and interesting history. It was one of the first towns in England to receive a Charter and still retains its own Mayor. It has a beautiful main street of stone built houses and a large parish church which has the Bede House and a tiny 15th century grammar school building in its close. Also in Higham Ferrers are to be found the ruins of a college founded in the 15th century and the site of a castle.

The people of Higham Ferrers are proud of their town and its educational traditions and were delighted when The Ferrers School opened in 1980. The school now plays a very important part in the life of the local community.

Higham Ferrers and its neighbouring town of Rushden are served by two comprehensive schools which share the common 'catchment area' of the two towns. The two comprehensive schools draw students from seven primary schools in Higham Ferrers and Rushden, with almost all students in Higham Ferrers Junior School and Henry Chichele transferring to The Ferrers, in addition to large numbers from the Rushden primary schools. A number of students also attend The Ferrers from villages outside of the immediate area. At Post-16 level we work in partnership with our neighbouring secondary schools - Huxlow and Rushden - within the context of The East Northamptonshire Sixth Form Consortium (TENC). In a competitive local context, our standard admission number is 180 in each year group, although recent increases in parental applications have meant larger admission numbers in recent years.

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Student numbers for September 2017 are 1021

What is distinctive about our school?

Our motto of "Aspire, Achieve, Acclaim" reflects an ethos of high expectations and an emphasis on celebrating and rewarding success. We try to support all our students in doing the best they can in all they do, while challenging them to aim for higher standards and to beat their personal best. We believe in the importance of good qualifications to secure a brighter future for our young people. We try, though, to avoid being just an "exam factory" and pride ourselves in the diverse offer of extra-curricular activities which enrich the lives of our students.

Whilst we are a larger than average secondary school, we retain a "small school" feel where everyone is known and supported through our pastoral support team.

Much of the diversity of our activities is reflected in the various awards the school has achieved in recent years, including Artsmark, Sportsmark, Investors in People, Healthy Schools, Career mark, Citizenship Gold and the International School Award.

We believe in the quality of positive relationships among all those who work here. There is a strong loyalty and commitment to the school from the staff, who are proud of our positive local reputation and keen to see the school continue to improve.

Accommodation & Facilities

The Ferrers has an extremely pleasant campus with excellent facilities. The single storey brick built accommodation is set in very attractive grounds. In 2003 two new Science laboratories were built. In 2004, we built a new Dance studio and in 2007 we expanded our Learning Support, Reception area and changing room facilities. In 2008 we extended our Expressive Arts Suite and refurbished staff and students toilets. In 2010, a Creative and Media Suite was added to our facilities. Each faculty has its own suite of rooms. Specialist facilities include:

- An Art and Technology suite with new studios and workshops for Art, Textiles and Product Design;
- Six new Information Technology suites equipped with computer networks;
- An Expressive Arts suite with a Drama studio, two Music studios, a Dance studio, a number of music practice rooms and two performing arts areas
- A suite of nine fully equipped Science laboratories.
- All staff are given a laptop computer and classrooms have projectors. All Mathematics classrooms and MFL rooms have interactive whiteboards with a programme to introduce more of these to other classrooms.

The school's Learning Centre, developed from the original Library, offers comprehensive ICT and book facilities to aid student learning.

Smoking

The Ferrers School is a no smoking site.