Everyone the best they can be
We are committed to the success of each student. We are very proud of the care and support we can provide to every student to ensure that our learners leave our school as high achievers, equipped with the skills and values necessary to play an active and successful part in today’s rapidly changing society.

We believe in aspiring to excellence in everything that we do. Our primary aim is to help all of our students embark on a lifelong journey of learning and self-discovery. As such, we strive to reach the highest standards in everything we do, from learning and teaching to achievement and student leadership. We help our students to develop their creative, innovative and problem-solving skills and encourage them to become leaders in their own right. Chailey is a smaller than average school, where all students are known and supported in a safe, challenging and happy environment, and where students can expect to stretch their horizons beyond the classroom. All the staff are proud that our students feel valued and have all their achievements, both academic and personal, recognised.

We believe in traditional values and courtesy, respect, a smart appearance, tolerance, consideration and self-discipline underpin the life of our school. We have high expectations of students in both their work and behaviour and believe that strong and positive relationships between the school, parents, carers and governors are all-important.

We are very proud of our school and welcome visitors to come and see us at work.

‘Pupils are encouraged to have high expectations’

OFSTED 2017

Chailey is a small school that attracts students from a very large catchment area. Students and parents are attracted by the care and support we can offer, our high achievement and a vast range of opportunities which enhance the achievements and personal development of our students.

‘The Headteacher leads with clarity, passion and assurance’

OFSTED 2017
We have high expectations of everyone at Chailey – students and staff alike. We are a learning community, committed to the development of everyone. Our students are diverse in their abilities and talents and at Chailey we support each individual to thrive in our stimulating learning environment.

We teach our students as individuals and this means we respect our young people for what they can do and we help them to improve on what they find difficult. We use a range of teaching methods and strategies, set work to match the needs of each individual student, and help each and every one of them to make progress.

Our teachers have excellent subject knowledge and are all committed to developing and sharing their skills and latest innovations to ensure they are all the very best practitioners they can be. We boast the leading subject specialists in East Sussex in both English and Languages and we regularly provide training for other secondary schools. Chailey School is also part of the Newick Teaching Alliance, which ensures our staff keep up-to-date with training in teaching and learning, and also that we use our expertise to help other educational settings.

We offer a modern and stimulating learning environment and continue to invest in every aspect of teaching and learning. Over recent years we have upgraded our science laboratories, ICT rooms, sports hall and library. We have a new playground surface, sprung floor for dance and facilities for tennis and outdoor games.

‘Staff know their pupils very well and help them grow in confidence. Pupils make good, and sometimes better progress. Pupils appreciate what staff do for them and therefore their conduct is typically exemplary, both in lessons and around the school.’

OFSTED 2017
Learning is not confined to the classroom. At Chailey we believe in this wholeheartedly, and have developed an outstanding programme recognised by a national award for ‘Learning Outside the Classroom’. We are incredibly proud to be the first school in East Sussex to gain this prestigious award.

Students are encouraged to take part in a huge range of opportunities including regular extra-curricular activities, sporting events and teams, as well as day and residential trips and experiences. These opportunities include, but are not limited to the following: tree-jumping, theatre trips, a week of work experience for every student, skiing trips to North America, Welsh Camp, language trips to Europe, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, history trips to the Western Front, and our own concerts, musical and dramatic performances. We also organise and host primary sports festivals including the Peace Field Football Tournament.

Our work in promoting learning in its widest sense is also recognised, with national awards for ‘Investors in Careers’, the Arts Mark Award for the quality of our provision in the arts both inside and outside of the classroom and the International Schools Award for our high achievement and commitment to foreign languages and learning about the wider world.

‘We have many groups that visit throughout the season but I felt I had to write as your students’ behaviour and manners were outstanding’

Outdoor Activities Centre
Caring and supporting each other

No matter how many innovations and reforms education goes through, young people will always learn best when they feel happy, confident and properly supported. We give all of our young people the care and support that they need to flourish both academically and personally, particularly if things go wrong be it through illness, falling out with friends or other issues.

We take care to have excellent working relationships with our partner primary schools and have established many successful links including:

- master classes in various subjects
- visits to our art and design technology exhibition
- the junior school festival
- KS2 PE teaching
- our annual primary matinee performance of our Christmas show.

Along with our year 6 induction days and visits to students in their primary schools, we build confidence and a sense of security before students start at Chailey. We take particular care to introduce vulnerable children to life at Chailey as sensitively as possible.

Chailey is an open school and we welcome partnership with parents at all times. We have a clearly defined pastoral system to ensure we act as a co-ordinated whole when dealing with problems that may arise.

We are also very proud of our student leadership systems including our prefects, peer mentors, induction mentors and student council, which all work to ensure Chailey is a welcoming school for all.

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'Pupils are taught how to stay safe and feel safe at school. Parents agree their children are well cared for and safe at this school.'

OFSTED 2017
Students leave Chailey School with very good qualifications that equip them well for the world of further education, employment and training that is ahead.

We believe homework is important. It allows students to develop skills in independent learning, which will prove vital for success at GCSE and beyond and we have a well-developed Virtual Learning Environment that allows students to access resources outside of the classroom.

At Chailey, we understand the importance of preparing students for the wider adult world and helping them make informed decisions about the next steps in their education and employment. There is a vast range of routes through education and into employment and during their time at Chailey we will support our students in their ambitions and in making the right choices for them. Our programme of Careers Education ensures students are able to make informed decisions about their next steps when it is time for them to move on.

We continue to provide a week of Work Experience for our Year 10 students when many other schools have discontinued this. It supports our students by giving them a taste of the world outside of education and helps them to develop work ready skills and confidence.

Partnerships with parents are vital to ensure all students can thrive and we keep in touch through regular communication and events – you can be sure you will know what is going on with your child!

Together students, parents, carers, staff and governors make a winning team.

"Teachers know their pupils' individual needs well"

OFSTED 2017