

THE BURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL ETHOS

Scholarship

To challenge and inspire pupils to work hard, aim high and achieve and to provide an excellent learning environment where each pupil values academic success and where achievement is celebrated by all.

Character

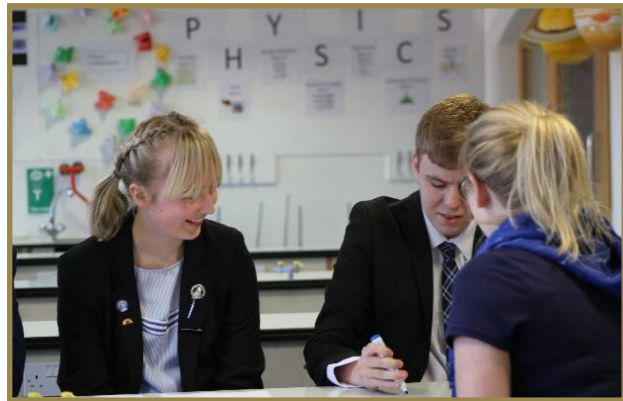
To foster intellectual curiosity, generosity of spirit, self-belief, confidence, resilience, flexibility, a sense of duty and service and a caring and tolerant outlook

Enrichment

To encourage all pupils to participate in a wide range of activities, developing an all-round approach to their education and a lifelong love of learning

Partnerships

To look out to the world with optimism, forge positive partnership and learn to play an engaging role in society at a local, national and global level, preparing for lives in an ever-changing world.



Reflections on the role of Bury Grammar School in light of the pandemic of 2020

Like many institutions, the pandemic of 2020 has given us an opportunity to reflect seriously upon what we are aiming to do as a school. At the time of writing our objective to be the school of first choice for pupils, parents and staff in the area appears to have been resoundingly endorsed by our community and our school aims also feel more relevant now than ever: working closely with parents and preparing pupils for lives in an 'ever-changing world' are just two lines which stand out.

We believe that the most challenging situations can provide the best conditions in which to surge forward. The pandemic of 2020 required us to create a whole new education system in a matter of days: it made us step back and have a long hard look at what education is really for, reassesses our priorities and value what we have at BGS. It could be that a national renaissance in education is the result of this era and at Bury Grammar School we intend to be leading the way.

Our initial evaluation of the features which has enabled BGS (we believe) to do well by our pupils during this pandemic, along with our assessment of the progress we were making with regard to our strategic plan pre pandemic and our thoughts about the qualities our school will need to thrive in the future, have led us to focus on three key qualities:

• **Quality** • **Tradition** • **Innovation**



QUALITY, TRADITION AND INNOVATION

– THE HALLMARKS OF A BURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL EDUCATION

We are very proud of our 450-year history and the traditions that make us unique. As a confident and forward-looking school, our strong foundations provide the perfect springboard from which to innovate as we prepare our pupils for successful, productive and happy lives in a global 21st century.

'Quality is never an accident: it is always the result of intelligent efforts.'

Quality is the common thread running through our history and into our future: this is the hallmark of a Bury Grammar School education.

So what did we learn at BGS from the global pandemic of 2020 which we can take forward into the future?

1. It is the **people** of Bury Grammar School who make this such a tremendous school.
2. Our **pupils** truly have the resilience, independence and study skills needed to become highly successful learners and future leaders. If we plan intelligently to build on the progress made during Spring 2020, this generation of pupils have the capacity to be a more skilled, robust and agile group of young people than ever before.
3. Our **partnership with parents** is absolutely central to pupils' educational progress and happiness at school; this partnership moved up to a new level during lockdown and was integral to providing a high quality education.
4. Our **teachers and support staff** could not be more committed to providing the very best education for pupils and could not be more behind the school. Every single member of staff rose to the challenges of educating through lockdown.
5. The **intelligent use of technology** is the way forward: we have made more progress more rapidly in this area than we ever thought possible and are determined to build on this.
6. We have the skills and foresight to provide a high-quality education which is also good value for money: we are proud that our professional approach to the **business functions** of the school enables us to keep our fees the lowest in the area. This is something we intend to safeguard.
7. Our **community** has the problem-solving skills, agility of thought and open approach to enable us to adapt rapidly and successfully, whatever the challenges of the day. If we can create a whole new education system in two days, what can we achieve in the next two years and two decades?
8. There is always more to learn as **school leaders**: we expect to face the unexpected and welcome future challenges.
9. At Bury Grammar School we have always been focussed on **what is right for our pupils**, regardless of occasional pressures to do otherwise. We continue to be committed to this approach.
10. **Good communication** with a loyal and united school community, along with **strong leadership and governance**, provide the solid bedrock underpinning everything we do as a school.

