



Felsted



# The Seven Foundations of Felsted



# Garde Ta Foy

## Developing Character, Making a Difference

Felsted is much, much more than a school. Education here is broad, inclusive, inspiring and considered. However, absorbing knowledge is no use without the skills and sensitivities to apply it in the real world, today and well into our students' futures.

Felsted School was founded in 1564 by Richard Lord Riche. Built on Christian foundations, Felsted today is a modern, diverse community, which inspires meaningful reflection. The school motto and guiding principle, Garde Ta Foy (Keep Your Faith), encourages us to consider what 'faith' is to us and what we stand for. Felsted's core values guide members of the school community to approach life with grace and integrity, and to treat others with respect and kindness.

Woven into every day at Felsted are the strong threads of **academic aspiration, community, wellbeing, sporting excellence, enrichment, globalism** and the **championing of neurodiverse qualities**.

Rather than one feature, these aspects combine to make Felsted a truly unique place for young people to learn, develop, achieve and acquire the characteristics they need as individuals to engage fully with life.

Our students are forever Felstedians. We believe that we make a difference to these key years in their lives and help them to develop as characters, so that they are ready to go out into the world and make a difference.

**Chris Townsend,**  
Head of Felsted School

# Academic

## Academic aspiration with individual learning pathways and distinctive curriculum



The academic curriculum at Felsted is high-quality and expertly taught, but what sets it apart is its capacity to excite and inspire our students. Choices at all ages encourage individuals to explore their academic interests and to learn in the style that best suits them.

### **Outstanding use of data for pupil progress**

The experience and expertise of our teaching staff is complemented by the latest data recording systems to support them further in understanding the students as individuals and ensure that parents know exactly how their child is progressing.

### **Future-focused curriculum**

The Felsted curriculum is focused on teaching the relevant knowledge and skills that will prepare them for the life and careers of tomorrow. Felsted's dedicated Professional Guidance Department provides guidance and support on entrance to universities, apprenticeships and the workplace.

### **Extensive languages offer**

An increasingly globalised economy relies on communication and our students' linguistic abilities will remain an asset to them. Pupils are introduced to modern foreign languages from the youngest years and this develops into a full and varied language programme as they move up the school. Languages are a popular choice at GCSE and form a core element for those choosing the IB Diploma programme.

### **Strong creative offer**

Creativity of thought and expression fuels the creative arts that enrich our lives. Showcases of art, drama and music are inspirational and cultivate professional pathways beyond Felsted.

### **Academic societies & Supra curricular activities**

Intellectualism thrives at Felsted and there are many forums for students to discuss their interests, share thoughts and ideas and practise critical thinking with like minded peers in a fun and challenging environment.

### **Flexibility over subject options**

Selecting subjects in line with students' abilities, interests and career aspirations is a focus for GCSE and Sixth Form. The choice on offer is kept deliberately wide and includes the highly-respected International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, as well as several BTEC options for the more practically minded students.

### **EPQ**

Most of our Sixth Formers undertake the Extended Project Qualification, sharpening their skills of communication and presentation.



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Academic at Felsted,  
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# Wellbeing & Inclusivity

## Focusing on the needs of every individual

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Felsted is focused on understanding and developing all aspects of the individual, with academic and pastoral staff working together to support every young person in their care.

### **Wellbeing provision - tailored to the needs of the individual**

Personal, Social and Health Education, Counselling and Peer Counselling, Mental First Aid Training and Support for Learning all combine to support the wellbeing of the Felsted community.

### **Pupil voice**

From catering and sustainability to pride and diversity, pupil-led committees help to recognise and remove any barriers to individuals' participation in all that Felsted has to offer.

### **Excellent PSHE programme**

Pupils of all ages are encouraged to prioritise and take care of their own wellbeing through PSHE and practical sessions, including many expert visiting speakers.

### **Data tracking and monitoring**

Information on pupil's wellbeing is carefully gathered through a blend of pupil voice opportunities alongside attitudinal data which feeds into our care and support for our learners.

### **Specialised safeguarding team**

Felsted's team of experienced and highly qualified safeguarding leads respond immediately and appropriately to any concerns. A group of trained pupils offer listening ears through our Peer Support and Mentoring Programme.

### **Early Years Programme**

The concept of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion is introduced to our pupils at the youngest age through appropriate themed lessons and activities.

### **Promoting positive behaviour**

Individual behaviour is seen as an indicator of their needs and regulatory systems rather than as a choice and intention, and provides important information as to how we can support them. The School believes in the importance of relational practice in behaviour management, setting the highest standards, but working with students to reach those levels.

### **Nutrition and Sleep**

We recognise the important roles that sleep and nutrition play in a child's health, wellbeing and learning. Felsted was recently awarded Sleep Champion status by the BSA and our award-winning chefs prepare tasty and balanced meals with plenty of options, as well as a steady stream of hearty snacks.



Want to know more about Wellbeing & Inclusivity at Felsted, scan the QR Code.



# Sports

## High-quality sports programme for all



Felsted has a strong tradition of sporting excellence. Over the decades, many professional athletes have been introduced to their sporting disciplines while at our school and, in common with pupils of all ages and abilities, have benefited from the expert coaching and high-quality facilities we offer.

At the same time, absolutely everyone can play at Felsted; pupils aged 4-18 are encouraged to develop a healthy attitude to fitness and exercise and to participate in individual and team sports in PE sessions and co-curricular activities.

### **Elite player pathway & Scholars' programme**

Sports Scholarships are available for pupils who show potential, and pupils with the talent, commitment and determination to make sport a professional career take advantage of personalised development programmes. For those who don't initially achieve an award, they still have access to the same outstanding coaches and wide ranging opportunities while at school.

### **Specialist coaches**

Felsted has attracted current and former professional players to coach our pupils, bringing their unique experience of high-level sport and their significant expertise.

### **Full fixture list**

Felsted teams and individuals compete in regional, national and international tournaments, fixtures and tours all year round, with great success. We are also proud of the range of fixtures available to those playing at a less advanced level.

### **Excellent facilities**

With a range of sports facilities on-campus including indoor and outdoor pitches and courts, a gymnasium and an indoor swimming pool, pupils have easy access for training and matches.

### **Strength and Conditioning provision**

Strength and Conditioning is a vital component of an athlete's development and Felsted has trained coaches to ensure that pupils are prepared physically and mentally to perform at the highest level.

The school is working on plans to provide a state of the art Strength and Conditioning facility to further support all of our students.

### **Partnerships with top sports clubs**

Felsted has long-established links with many top professional organisations, recommending pupils for further development at Essex Cricket, Sunrisers Cricket, Saracens Rugby and London Pulse Netball.



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about Sports at Felsted,  
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# Community

## A family ethos at the heart of our community with outstanding boarding provision

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We believe that community and nurture are the heartbeats of our boarding ethos and, whether boarding or day, every pupil benefits from the 24-hour, seven days-a-week, award-winning boarding culture. Boarding at Felsted has been developed over the past four centuries and is carefully designed to meet pupils' individual needs and wellbeing, leading to confident individuals who go out into the world to make a difference.

**Of course, boarding is also fun!**

### **Innovative approach to boarding**

There is a choice of arrangements to suit families - full (seven nights a week), weekly (five nights), contemporary (three nights) and a flexible option for our younger pupils.

### **Excellent pastoral care**

Each house is a unique community with its own family atmosphere. Many members of staff live on campus and house parents live with the boarders, so there are always experienced and nurturing adults on hand to support students pastorally and academically.

### **Personalised evening academic support**

In the evenings, boarders study in the inspiring contemporary Marshall Centre for Learning, where there are spaces conducive to either group or independent study, and specialist subject teachers on hand to offer individual support.

### **'It takes a village to raise a child'**

Individually and collectively, adult members of the Felsted community recognise the important role they play in supporting our pupils to develop as unique characters, ready to forge their own paths in life. Senior pupils are involved in mentoring, coaching and peer counselling.

### **Boarding activity programme**

From fun cooking sessions and movie nights to trips out to the cinema or sightseeing in London or Cambridge, boarders have plenty to keep them occupied at weekends.

### **Pupil leadership**

Pupils become very settled in their houses and older pupils are keen to take on roles of responsibility within the house to help other boarders make the most of the house experience.

### **Bursary funding to widen accessibility**

Means-tested financial assistance is available to ensure that pupils from a range of backgrounds have the opportunity to board and benefit from all that Felsted has to offer.

### **Pre-university experience**

Boarding at school is excellent preparation for university. Students in their last year at school have many opportunities to further develop their self-reliance as well as their cooking skills!

### **Charity support**

Felsted has a long tradition of making a difference and our students lead the way in organising and taking part in activities to support our core charities, volunteering with community projects and promoting a sustainable future.

### **Day as part of the boarding culture**

Day pupils at Felsted benefit hugely from the school's boarding set-up, with their own day house communities and use of the study areas, library, sports, arts and wellbeing facilities.

### **Above and beyond**

Felsted is so much more than a boarding school. Our boarding environment and the staff who work within it are committed to helping our pupils to make the most of their time at the school and leave with very happy memories that last a lifetime.



Want to know more about **Strong Community** at Felsted, scan the QR Code.



# Enrichment

## Excellence in creative and enrichment options



Our extensive co-curriculum extends our pupils' academic learning and challenges them to test their limits, try new things and develop themselves as individuals.

### **Excellent music provision**

Music is a key component with a huge range of opportunities available for musicians to contribute individually, academically and through the co-curricular programme. Felstedians study, play and perform all year round to an impressive level, inspired by our state-of-the-art music school and committed teachers.

### **Strength in Drama and LAMDA**

From the Reception Nativity to challenging productions put on by our senior actors and technicians, pupils explore a world of dramatic styles, on-stage and behind it, in our brand new performing arts studio and on-campus theatre. The life skill of public speaking is developed through high-quality LAMDA lessons and performances.

### **Specialism in Art and Design, Technology & Engineering**

Felsted's studios are a creative hub where young artists are guided by specialists in classical Oil Painting, Art History, New Digital Media, Illustration, Photography, and Printmaking, while the innovative designers of the future employ professional techniques and equipment, including 3D printers. Strong relationships with artists such as Bruce Munro (OF) provide additional high quality experiences for our artists.

### **Broad range of activity options: CCF, Charities, DofE, Med Soc, MUN, CREST, Round Square etc.**

The regular weekly activity sessions introduce a whole variety of pursuits designed to grow leadership skills, encourage service, develop character and make a difference in the world.

### **Parental and Alumni Network of leading thinkers**

Wherever they are making a difference in the world, members of the #FelstedFamily of alumni and parents, past and present, get together across the globe to share ideas and strengthen their bond.



Want to know more about  
Enrichment at Felsted,  
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# Global Education

## Integrated global approach to education



Our global approach to education means that we guide our pupils towards developing the attributes, characteristics and principles that will stand them in good stead for life in an ever-shrinking world of the future.

### **Round Square**

Felsted is a member of Round Square, an international network of over 250 schools across the globe sharing the core principles of Internationalism, Democracy, Environmentalism, Adventure, Leadership and Service.

### **Holistic integration of international students**

A fifth of Felsted pupils come to us from beyond the UK, making our community rich and vibrant. Pupils develop an understanding of a wide variety of backgrounds and cultures and have the opportunity to live and work alongside people from all over the world.

### **IB Diploma**

Felsted was one of the first schools in the UK to embrace the IB Diploma Programme and our many years of experience has resulted in provision that prepares our students to achieve world class Diploma scores and become lifelong learners.

### **Summer School**

Felsted's International Summer School develops global awareness, cultural understanding and creative skills as part of a large, vibrant and fun global community.

### **Educational trips and partnerships**

Experiencing the world beyond Felsted is key to our pupils understanding the relevance of their learning and there is a full calendar of trips supporting all areas of life at Felsted.

### **International partnerships projects**

Opportunities are created for our pupils to collaborate with their contemporaries in other countries and these experiences make a real impact on the perceptions and understanding of all involved. For example, our partnership with Magic Bus (Mumbai) and the Sparkle Foundation (Malawi).

### **Model United Nations**

Based on the structure and practice of the real UN, the student version provides a forum to examine, discuss and debate global issues with their peers and other schools from around the world. Felsted hosts a thriving conference for more than 30 schools, and also visits international conferences in places such as Athens and The Hague.

### **Bespoke English as an Additional Language support**

Our experienced EAL teachers support pupils who use English as an additional language, improving their skills according to their individual needs.



Want to know more about  
Global Education at Felsted,  
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# Neuroinclusivity

## Celebrating diversity among our learners



It is our vision that Felsted is recognised as a mainstream school with outstanding provision for neurodiversity, championing children who think differently within our community.

### **Expert Support for Learning (SfL)**

Felsted's SfL Department helps our pupils to make the very most of their time at our school. The parents of any pupil applying to join us are asked to provide relevant reports, so that we are able to determine the type and level of support that would be beneficial.

### **Individual support**

Every child is different and so is the support we offer. Whether in-class, as individuals or in small groups, we tailor our support to suit each child. Academic timetables are adjusted to make sure there is plenty of time to benefit from any particular requirements.

### **Education plans**

Every pupil who has SfL lessons has an Individual Education Plan to ensure that every member of staff they come into contact with at school is aware of their needs and how best to support them in achieving their very best.

### **Training for staff**

It is our aim that all staff at the school are well equipped with the expertise and confidence to identify each individual's needs at an early stage. The latest research on supporting neurodiversity is to be embedded into our Continuing Professional Development programme, growing the knowledge and expertise of our staff for the benefit of the whole community.

### **Screening for all students**

Early assessment for pupils enables them to capitalise fully on the education we offer through tailored help and by making use of the many assistive technologies available throughout the school, from Reception to Year 13.



Want to know more about  
Neuroinclusivity at Felsted,  
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# Staff Development

Committed to attracting, developing  
and retaining the very best people

Felsted would not be the successful school it is without our staff. We extend and support their development and their careers in a diverse, inclusive and non-discriminatory environment. In this way, we ensure that our characteristic high standards are maintained year after year, and that Felsted is a safe, kind and pleasant place to live, learn and work.

Teaching staff who have only recently entered the profession are fully supported through the school's bespoke Early Careers Teachers programme. This was recently described by the Independent Schools Teacher Induction Panel as 'excellent', with praise for the programme's capacity to be tailored to suit each new teacher and the standard of mentoring by experienced teachers.

Staff members find fulfilment in year-round outreach projects, including teaching lessons in other schools and hosting and leading experience days at Felsted for local children, in line with the school's commitment to sharing our expertise and facilities.

Yoga, mindfulness, pilates, tennis, life-drawing, baking, spinning fitness, swimming and many other wellbeing activities are provided for staff members, helping to ensure that we are all happy, healthy and ready to work together to contribute to our strong Felsted community, and deliver the best possible education to our pupils.



Want to know more about  
[Staff Development](#) at Felsted,  
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