

Fir Vale School

A Specialist School in Business & Enterprise



making dreams a reality



making dreams a reality

WELCOME TO OUR UNIQUE SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers

Fir Vale is a very special place. A happy, purposeful and highly successful school where students are valued as individuals. We are passionately committed to our students' achievement, to their personal growth and to excellence in everything we do. Students are encouraged to thrive in all areas of learning, in the classroom and beyond.

The school has received national recognition for its high achievement. In 2004 we became the first Business and Enterprise School in Sheffield developing a range of initiatives in school and in the community. At the same time we were awarded Leading Edge status for our commitment to innovation and the highest standards in teaching and learning. Recently we were designated as a High Performing Specialist School.

This prospectus is designed to give you an insight into all that makes Fir Vale an outstanding school and the best place for your son or daughter to pursue their secondary education.

Our expectations for every student are high, excellence and enjoyment are at the heart of all we do. By choosing Fir Vale you are committing yourself to working with us for your child's future in our caring and aspirational school.

I would be delighted to welcome you into school to experience what we have to offer. Governors, staff and myself look forward to working with you.

Lesley Bowes

Headteacher

The quality of provision is exemplary in almost every aspect.

Ofsted (2006)





OUR VISION

The vision and ethos of the school is summarised succinctly in our motto *'making dreams a reality'*. This places great importance on values of confidence, self esteem, attainment, achievement and aspiration.

OUR MISSION

Our core purpose is to provide a positive environment for learning and growth, which inspires all to discover, develop and fulfil their potential and dreams. We will achieve this purpose by translating our beliefs into positive aims, objectives and ensuring that they inform, direct and inspire all our practice.

Students understand and value others' faiths, linguistic and cultural differences. Their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is excellent.

Ofsted (2006)

THE CHALLENGE

As a specialist in business and enterprise we aim to ensure enterprise learning inspires children to explore opportunities, personal growth and development whilst working with a range of community partners, to create pathways beyond Fir Vale School.

"The motto Fir Vale has is 'making dreams a reality', and teachers try and make that possible in every way".

Year 8 student



THE JOY OF LEARNING



IN THE CLASSROOM AND BEYOND

Students at Fir Vale School follow the National Curriculum which includes a broad and balanced range of learning opportunities. Creativity is actively promoted and the explicit teaching of the skills required for students to become effective at independent learning.

During Year 9 students are carefully guided by staff before making their decisions about pathways of study at GCSE or Diploma level.



Beyond the classroom Fir Vale offers a wide range of additional enrichment activities. All students are encouraged to make the most of their time at Fir Vale and to take part in some of the many extra curricular activities on offer.



The curriculum is outstanding. It has been expertly planned and the school provides a range of tailored learning opportunities and pathways which meet the varied needs and interests of all students.

Ofsted (2006)

"The teachers have helped me to achieve higher grades than I thought possible".

Year 11 student



making dreams a reality



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