**Gillotts**

**Vision, values and strategic aims**

Non nobis solum – Not by ourselves alone

**Vision**

Gillotts is a high performing, innovative school where every student is valued as an individual, and is supported and encouraged to achieve their potential. We pride ourselves on being inclusive of all, developing academic achievers and individuals who make a positive contribution to society now and in their future lives.

**Values**

*As individuals –we value –*

everyone as an individual, capable of growth, change and development; self-respect; self-belief; courage, humour; honesty; integrity; dedication; commitment; generosity of spirit; flexibility; vision; initiative; open-mindedness

*In our professional relationships with each other –we value –*

all staff, whatever their role; clarity in determining roles and responsibilities; respect for the unique contribution of different parts of the curriculum; effective communication; transparency; teamwork; good timekeeping; pride in our achievements; professional development; confidence in each other’s support

*In our relationships with our students –we value –*

justice; equality; mutual respect; fairness; consistency; courtesy; high expectations; trust; achievement

*In the experience of learning in our school –we value –*

the joy of learning; creativity; a spirit of enquiry; risk-taking; exploration of ideas; challenge; raising aspiration; inclusion; hard work; celebration of achievement; freedom to express ideas and views; opportunities for reflection; sense of purpose; inventiveness; independence; rigour; mistakes as means of learning

*In our capacity as a community school –we value –*

partnership with parents, governors and the wider community; lifelong learning; human rights; preparing young people to become effective, responsible citizens; skills for life and for work

*In our environment –we value –*

an atmosphere conducive to learning; safety; respect for property; healthy living

**Vision for the medium term**

Gillotts School is proud of its successes and proud of its identity. We believe in achievement for all and want to secure the best outcomes for all our learners, without exception. We want to continue to raise students’ expectations of themselves and develop them as autonomous learners, ready for the challenges ahead.

We will build on our success by creating a highly inclusive and integrated community by enhancing the opportunities for interaction and engagement with the school beyond the planned curriculum, encompassing students’ social time within the school day and enhancing opportunities for the use of the school site by the community. Further we would embrace opportunities to extend our success with vertical integration to create a 3-16 all-through school, with strengthened integration (real and virtual) with Henley College, for 14-19 provision.

Teaching and learning are at the heart of this school. We have had an explicit and visible commitment to personalisation of learning since 2005, when the school re-structured around Hargreaves’ personalising learning gateways. As personalisation has become embedded, responsibility for many of these gateways now rests with the Leadership Team, recognising the centrality of the concept. The gateways (Assessment for Learning, Learning to Learn, Student Voice, Curriculum, ICT, Mentoring, Advice and Guidance, Workforce Remodelling, School Organisation) remain core to the School Development Plan. However we see Assessment for Learning as the single most powerful lever for improved teaching and learning, and hence improved attainment and progress. We are developing an increasingly personalised approach to CPD recognising that teachers, as professionals, are the best placed to drive their own development.

We will build on our outstanding curriculum, underpinned by a deep understanding of student progress and a commitment to developing the wider skills valued by higher education and employers.

We see 21st century learning anchored in student-student collaboration with the teacher as ‘the guide by the side not the sage on the stage’, with seamless, embedded access to ICT to support interaction, collaboration and feedback. We will break down the artificial boundary of the limits of the school day to support the integration of students’ learning in school, at home and on the move. A comprehensive and flexible ICT solution is an essential means to this end. We see every student with permanent access to a handheld device (not necessarily owned by the school) to motivate and support learning.

We have an inspirational site – 33 acres with extensive woodland, on the site of the local manor house, parts of which (including two associated cottages) remain. The school is set on the fringes of the town with extensive views across the Thames valley. We want to use the stunning environment to help excite and inspire and students and staff to move the school’s performance to the next level, making it an outstanding place to study and work with results securely in the top 10% of schools nationally. To achieve this vision, we need to redevelop the whole school environment.

Since September 2008, the school has offered and maintained the Full Core of Extended Services (ie, a safe place to be, a varied menu of activities, swift and easy referral, community access, parenting support). We are also co-located with Henley Leisure Centre. Building on these successes, we seek to work with the Local Authority and other providers in developing the co-location of services, in support of the principle of bringing services closer to the population. We will continue to develop the support we offer to parents to enable them in turn to support us as they work alongside their children.

Redeveloping the school environment will enable us to achieve all this by allowing us to maximise the potential of the site. It will enable us to meet the challenges we face through having buildings that are not fit for purpose (eg, high maintenance and energy bills, subject teams spread across the school) and so allow us to focus on our core priority of continuously improving outcomes for Henley’s young people.

**Strategic aims**

The primary function of the school is to serve its students and the local community in the best possible way. Bearing this in mind, together with the overall target of being an outstanding school, the Governing Body and the School will work together:-

**Primarily (Aim 1):**

* **To maximise achievement through effective and inspiring teaching**

**And:-**

**Aim 2**

* **To maintain a distinctive curriculum offer tailored to the needs of our students, ensuring that 21st century technology is used effectively to support teaching and learning**

**Aim 3**

* **To promote personal development by the provision of outstanding support and guidance**

**Aim 4**

* **To provide a built environment fit for the purpose of 21st century teaching and learning**

**Aim 5**

* **To promote Gillotts’ position as Henley’s first class community school**

This document was adopted at a meeting of the Governing Body on 4 December 2018. It is reviewed annually.

Catharine Darnton David Gorsuch

Headteacher Chair of Governors