



Excellence, compassion & respect for all
**FRAMWELLGATE
SCHOOL DURHAM**

This final Governor Up-date for the school year illustrates both the new school colours of grey and navy and the new school badge.

Longstanding supporters of the school will be pleased to see that the eagle still appears in the badge. The original house names were all birds of prey when the school first opened as a comprehensive school in the early 1970s. The new colours modernise and update the look of the school whilst staying true to the symbol many people have long associated with Framwellgate School Durham.

“Excellence, compassion and respect for all”

All the changes introduced into the school by Mr Byers, staff and governors, since September, are predicated on excellence. The review of both the school ethos and values and the school uniform are part of that drive for excellence in everything we do. This principle was uppermost in the minds of governors as they discussed these significant issues last term.

A review of the school ethos was an opportunity for governors to focus on exactly what they wanted Framwellgate School Durham to stand for. Care was taken to balance the soft skills students need to learn with a commitment to academic success. Excellence, aspiration and aiming high are all expressed within the statement together with respect, compassion and fairness. Above all, we do want our students to be happy at FSD.

Although there were very few responses from parents to the draft statement, governors felt that all stakeholders associated with the school would be pleased with the final statement.

Intake is increasing

Governors were pleased to hear that the number of parents opting for year 7 at FSD is increasing and that we are likely to be over-subscribed in that year group in September. The number of students applying to the Sixth Form in September is also increasing and likely to be up by at least 40%. These increased numbers make an important contribution to the school budget.

Governor Up-date

June 2018

Ethos and Values

Our school promotes academic excellence and embraces the shared values of honesty, integrity, respect and compassion. We want our students to be ambitious, kind, resilient and hardworking, and have a genuine passion for learning. We want them to change the world with the knowledge, skills and confidence they have learned here; to champion fairness, have friendships for life, and pride in our school. Above all, we want our students to be happy.

School Uniform

There were over seventy written responses from parents about the proposed changes to the school uniform. Governors discussed all aspects of the change in detail, taking into account the range of opinions. As part of the drive to raise aspirations, governors wanted a uniform that students will be proud to wear. They were very conscious of the cost pressures on parents and the need to phase in the new uniform.

A best value exercise involving three suppliers led to the decision that Michael Sehgal & Sons Ltd. offered the best value for parents and the best quality of uniform. This company has its own factory in Tyneside and, although based in Newcastle, they will run pop-up shops in school together with their on-line sales. Parents can stagger the cost of the uniform over several months with a payment plan. The new uniform will consist of the following:-

- A grey blazer with the new school badge
- A newly designed navy and silver tie
- A graphite grey pleated skirt
- Black trousers with the school logo
- A navy slip-over or a navy jumper
- Short or long sleeved white school shirt
- Formal black shoes (not trainers or boots)

It was felt that purchasing from a single supplier will remove the pressure on parents to purchase expensive “designer” items from fashion retailers. There will be no ambiguity about the items of school uniform. This will be easier for staff to monitor. Governors feel that this new uniform will set FSD apart from other local schools and will support the drive towards higher standards.