



THE DEANES

WELCOME TO THE DEANES

*“This is a friendly place to go to school. Pupils are well behaved.
They listen to their teachers and get on well with each other in their free time.”*

(Ofsted, 2019)

The Deanes is a small secondary school in Thundersley with a local reputation for being family orientated and aspirational with our students.

We are proud to be part of the South East Essex Academy Trust (SEEAT), working closely with Westcliff High School for Girls, Hadleigh Junior School, Westborough Academy, Prince Avenue Academy and Nursery, Holt Farm Junior School and Rochford Academy.

Our staff deliver high quality lessons which challenge, engage and inspire students of all abilities. A relentless focus on student progress ensures, not just exam success, but also that individual students develop self-esteem and confidence through hard work and dedication to their studies.

For this to happen, The Deanes has very high expectations of our students. We expect students' behaviour around the school to be impeccable and every lesson must be characterised by a positive learning environment, free from distractions.

Our vision is set out in our 6 Promises, which are outlined throughout this brochure.

I would encourage all prospective students and their parents/carers to visit in order to gain a first hand appreciation of why The Deanes is the right choice for you.

I look forward to welcoming you to The Deanes.



Desi McKeown (Headteacher)

THE DEANES
PROMISE #1

**WE WILL REMAIN A SMALL
SECONDARY SCHOOL SO
THAT EACH AND EVERY
ONE OF OUR STUDENTS CAN
FEEL HAPPY, RESPECTED
AND KNOWN AS AN
INDIVIDUAL WITHIN
OUR SAFE AND
ACCEPTING COMMUNITY**



 **matter** AS AN INDIVIDUAL AT THE DEANES



“THEY FEEL A SENSE OF BELONGING AT THE DEANES”

MYA AND ERIN’S STORY

Clair has two daughters at The Deanes, Mya who is in Year 10 and Erin in Year 7.

“Mya has been very happy at the school since she began her Deanes journey and is doing very well in all her subjects. The support she gets is excellent and the wealth of extra-curricular activities and Challenger classes have enriched her time here. She is currently working through a Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Erin has only just started The Deanes and already feels welcomed, at ease and supported. Erin is very sporty and loves Dance and Performing Arts. She is very eager to be part of every sporting event, dance show and musical production that The Deanes provides.

Both of my daughters feel a sense of belonging at The Deanes and are proud to be students.”







BEHAVIOURS FOR LEARNING

OUR LEARNING VALUES

At The Deanes we have high expectations and standards. We establish a safe and stimulating environment for students, rooted in mutual respect.

We develop the behaviours and habits that learners need to succeed such as concentration, perseverance, imagination, co-operation, enjoyment, self-improvement and curiosity. These are celebrated through our STAGS award system.

S - STUDY SKILLS

Successful students organise themselves to ensure that all work is completed by deadlines. They manage a balance between academic studies, extra-curricular activities and leisure and social activities. Successful students attend every lesson, arriving on time with the right equipment and in the correct uniform.

T - TEAMWORK

Successful students get involved at every level - in class discussion, group tasks and in the wider life of the school.

A - ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Successful students never lose focus of their target grades and see them as a minimum starting point to be used as a spring-board for greater success. They work with teachers and tutors to achieve high outcomes.

G - GOOD MANNERS

Successful students see staff and parents as partners in their learning and understand that all parties are committed to their success. Successful students take responsibility, demonstrate positive attitudes and show respect for all members of the school community.

S - SHOWING RESILIENCE

Successful students realise that sometimes work will be challenging but are not put off by this. They understand that their commitment to their studies must be sustained.

THE DEANES
PROMISE #2

**WE WILL CONTINUE
TO CREATE A POSITIVE AND
RESPECTFUL ENVIRONMENT
FOR ALL MEMBERS OF
THE DEANES SCHOOL,
WITH CONSISTENTLY
HIGH EXPECTATIONS
AND STANDARDS**

 **matter** AS A LEARNER AT THE DEANES





“A SMALLER TEACHING ENVIRONMENT”

IMOGEN’S STORY

“When choosing a school for Imogen, we wanted a smaller teaching environment, one where she would not just blend into the background or be lost in the system.

We wanted a school that would bring out the best in our daughter.

Imogen has thrived since being at The Deanes, both personally and academically.”

THE DEANES
PROMISE #3

**OUR CURRICULUM
WILL CATER
FOR INDIVIDUAL
STRENGTHS AND
NEEDS, ENABLING
EVERY STUDENT TO
MAKE OUTSTANDING
PROGRESS AND
ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS**



 **matter** AS A STUDENT AT THE DEANES



CURRICULUM

CHALLENGING AND INCLUSIVE

Our ambitious curriculum matches the demands of the National Curriculum so that our students can meet and exceed age related national expectations. Our curriculum model is bespoke to The Deanes and changes to meet the needs and interests of our students.

We teach a wide range of different subjects to our students. We provide an accessible and enjoyable educational experience that ensures academic success, develops life-long skills, and offers a rich experience. We foster an appreciation of the importance of all individual subjects and highlight links and connections to other subjects studied. Each subject provides a narrative or journey of study detailing the what, why and how of its content and assessment.

We work hard to ensure that the curriculum we offer is rooted in our community.

We aim to be an inclusive academy where all children are cared for and where standards are raised and lives transformed.

SUBJECTS STUDIED AT KEY STAGE 3

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- History
- Geography
- Religious Studies
- Spanish
- Physical Education
- Art
- Music
- Drama
- Dance
- Computing
- Personal Health and Social Education
- Citizenship
- Design Technology

SUBJECTS STUDIED AT KEY STAGE 4

Core Curriculum Subjects:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Science
- Physical Education

Students then choose a further 4 additional subjects from over 20 options.



“SUCCESS IS NURTURED”

MANDISA’S STORY

Elsa and Leroy wanted to find a small, supportive school for their daughter. They wanted Mandisa to be encouraged academically and creatively and they found that The Deanes ticked all the boxes.

“What we love about the Deanes is that Mandisa is encouraged to develop her own unique pathway in a warm, friendly and supporting environment where success is nurtured.”

After securing exceptionally high grades for her GCSE examinations, Mandisa is now studying A-Levels at Westcliff High School for Girls, another SEEAT school.



BUILDING CHARACTER

DEVELOPING FUTURE CITIZENS

“The school’s work supports pupils to be self-confident and to develop strength of character. This is well exemplified by the fortnightly ‘challenger’ lessons. Leaders know it is difficult for some pupils to stay after school, but they want everyone to have lots of interesting experiences. Leaders therefore timetable these innovative sessions during the school day. In the sessions, pupils learn about topics such as mountain biking, sign language and archery. In other lessons, assemblies and events, pupils find out about many different features of society and the world.”

(Ofsted, 2019)

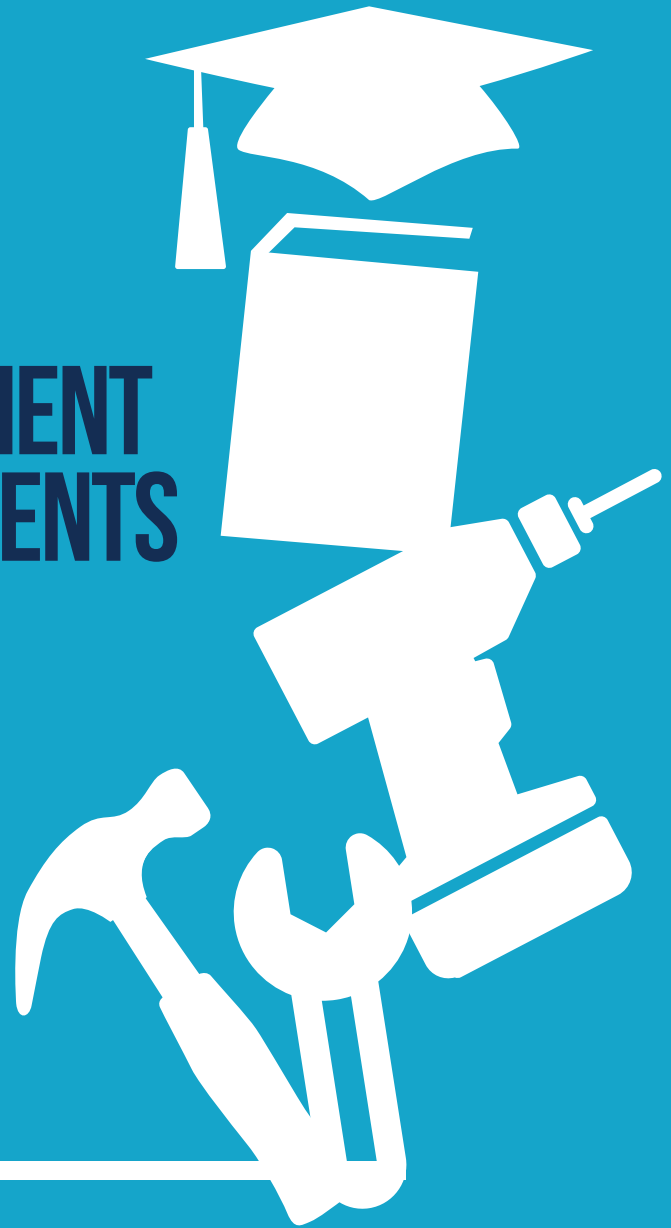
We develop future citizens who have a holistic set of skills and values that prepare them for life in a diverse, ever changing, modern world.

‘Building Character’ at The Deanes is an embodiment of our Promise #4. We use our ‘Building Character’ model to link all aspects of life at The Deanes and explicitly demonstrate how we are embedding our Promise #4 in lessons and through our extensive extra-curricular programme. This model encompasses our “innovative” Challenger Sessions (Ofsted, 2019). Every student has a Challenger session as part of their timetable curriculum offer.



THE DEANES
PROMISE #4

**EXTENSIVE
OPPORTUNITIES FOR
PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT
WILL EQUIP OUR STUDENTS
WITH THE SKILLS,
ATTRIBUTES AND
VALUES NEEDED FOR
FUTURE LIFE**



 **matter** AS A FUTURE CITIZEN AT THE DEANES



**“I FEEL CONFIDENT
THAT HE WILL ACHIEVE
WHATEVER HE WANTS”**

ISAAC'S STORY

“It was important for us that any school Isaac went to understood and encouraged Isaac as an individual and not just as a line on a spreadsheet. We were impressed with the way that the teaching staff spoke to students and the pragmatic and honest approach to education. I thought it was particularly bold to present the school's ethos as Promises and The Deanes has held themselves to those Promises throughout our time with the school.

Choosing a school for your child is always a bit of a leap into the unknown. We feel genuinely lucky that The Deanes was available to us - Isaac is seen as an individual and supported in his goals, and I feel confident that he will achieve whatever he wants.”





THE DEANES
PROMISE #5

**PARENTS AND CARERS
WILL REMAIN CENTRAL TO
OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY.
WE WANT THE FAMILIES OF
OUR STUDENTS TO BE FULLY
ENGAGED WITH ALL ASPECTS
OF SCHOOL LIFE TO ENSURE THE
MOST REWARDING LEARNING
EXPERIENCE FOR THEIR CHILD**



 **matter** AS A PARENT AT THE DEANES



STUDENT SUPPORT

EVERYONE WORKING TOGETHER

The Deanes actively encourages parents to get involved in all aspects of school life. We believe that a child's learning experience is enhanced when parents and the school work together to support the student. During the first term at The Deanes, all parents will be invited to meet their child's tutor to establish a point of contact and to support the student with the move to secondary school.

To further ease this transition, we have a dedicated email address for Year 7 parents. Regular contact is maintained throughout the year via our online systems and Parents' Evenings.

Each half term we hold a Parent Voice meeting, where parents can come and meet with the Headteacher and members of the Senior Leadership team, to discuss any aspect of school life. These meetings are an effective way for parents to communicate their views directly with the school.

We are fortunate to have a very active PTA who work tirelessly alongside the school, arranging events to raise funds for activities that will benefit our school community. All new parents are encouraged to join.



**“KNOWN AND CATERED
FOR AS INDIVIDUALS”**

SIENNA, SAVANNA AND VINNI’S STORY

“The Deanes, being our local school, would have been a natural choice. However, we let the children view all suitable schools and make their own choice. Each of them chose The Deanes.

They felt comfortable and excited on the Open Evening. We were happy with the choice for different reasons.

It’s a small school. This gave us the reassurance that our children would not be overlooked ,and peace of mind that they would be known and catered for as individuals.”



THE DEANES
PROMISE #6

**ALL STAFF WILL
HAVE HIGH QUALITY
TRAINING TO FURTHER
DEVELOP THEIR
PRACTICE AND
WILL ALSO BE
SUPPORTED
IN THE PURSUIT
OF THEIR GOALS**



 **matter** AS AN EMPLOYEE AT THE DEANES



SOUTH EAST ESSEX ACADEMY TRUST

FIRST FOR PUPILS | FIRST FOR PARENTS | FIRST FOR STAFF

The SEEAT Vision

Our vision is to be a family of schools that works together to deliver educational excellence based on the things that matter to us.

The SEEAT Values

Spirit

This is our character, our personality, our heart. At SEEAT, the development of character building is just as important to us as academic success. We want everyone who is involved with our schools to be people who respect their local community, each other and demonstrate the right attitude.

Effort

We believe that effort is a key component to success and achievement. To be able to be resilient and overcome adversity enables pupils and staff to exceed expectations and tackle any challenges they may face in their academic, personal and professional journey.

Enrichment

Whatever SEEAT school you go to, we want our pupils to have an experience that has been designed specifically for them, providing them with opportunities to develop as individuals alongside their academic studies. This might be through leadership opportunities, fundraising, visits or the chance to go above and beyond within particular subject areas, developing skills and hobbies for life.

Aspiration

We expect everyone to aim high and set challenging short and long term goals and targets for themselves. We aim for all pupils to understand the path to achieving their goal, and to understand how to achieve the grades needed through making above expected progress both in their SATs and in their GCSE and A level subjects.

Teamwork

In simple terms, it is the recognition that the team not the individual will make the difference - always. And for pupils, we can use our SEEAT Enrichment programme to develop great team work.



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