



Newcastle upon Tyne Royal Grammar School

The Royal Grammar School ethos

This policy applies to the whole School and is published to parents and students

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We strive to ensure that the Royal Grammar School (RGS) is a forward-looking co-educational school where:

- Everyone feels safe, valued and respected
- Students want to come to school because it's fun and fulfilling
- Students are happy, and corridors and rooms ring with the buzz of cheerful, positive conversation - and ready laughter
- The care and courtesy modelled by teachers are learned and shared by boys and girls in a spirit of community
- Bright, enquiring young minds are fed the intellectual food of challenge and high expectation
- Creative, searching, original thinking and questioning are demanded
- The emotional wellbeing of every student is central to all we do
- Every girl and boy finds her/his niche and is helped to grow in self-esteem and to build resilience as much as understanding
- The quiet or less confident student feels as protected and nurtured as the outgoing character
- Our students go on from school to enjoy not only the university and degree course of their choice but also successful and fulfilling lives.

An impossible vision to maintain in a difficult world? We don't believe so.

It calls for an emotionally intelligent, humane, thoughtful and altruistic school: that's what the RGS is. Such *soft* qualities are entirely compatible with the highest standards. Wide involvement and participation, opportunities for all indeed, can and should be achieved at the same time as very high levels of attainment both in and out of the classroom. We have long believed in the importance of our extra-curricular life, an aspect that does not merely complement but actually strengthens the academic side. The Junior School, GCSE and A-level results demonstrate every year that those who achieve most highly in the classroom and examination hall are those who have been fully engaged in sport, the arts and all the other aspects of RGS's incomparably rich life outside the classroom.

The School works to promote the positive qualities (British values) of:

- Respect for others and for law
- Democracy
- Tolerance
- Altruism
- Individual liberty and personal responsibility
- Community spirit
- Fair play

By means of a consistent school-wide consideration of those values in assemblies, forms, tutor sets, Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE), Philosophy and Religion (P&R), voluntary service and fund-raising activities, and, indeed, through our approach across the whole of school life in and out of the classroom.

Those are the values that define and drive the RGS ethos.

The RGS is non-denominational with no affiliation to any religious creed, but with ready acceptance of every student's faith and culture.