This document sets out the broad vision for the development of Royal Russell School through to 2025. It gives a framework for the strategic direction of the school from which we build more specific department development plans.

In planning for the development of Royal Russell, we need to consider our current position and our vision for the future of the school.

- We are a family school and embrace and support our whole community
- We are passionate learners and pursue excellence in all that we do
- We are ambitious for ourselves and recognise the rewards of effort, collaboration and commitment

We understand that considerable changes are likely to occur in wider society and in the educational world in the next seven years.

The impact of new technologies will continue to influence the way in which our pupils learn and curriculum, political and financial pressures on independent education will require us to be flexible and adaptable within our market.
Royal Russell is a very successful school. We know this from our own evaluation of its strengths, from feedback in parental surveys, from the success of our pupils and from the reports of external inspection.

The ISI Inspection Report of April 2016 gave the school an excellent platform on which to build.

The report stated that the school met all the requirements of the Independent School Standards (2014) and all of the National Minimum Standards for Boarding Schools (2015).

The inspection was completed by a team of 12 inspectors over four days and reported:

The quality of academic and other achievements: EXCELLENT
The quality of the pupils’ personal development: EXCELLENT
The effectiveness of governance, leadership and management: EXCELLENT
The Early Years Foundation Stage: EXCELLENT

OUR INSPECTION REPORT STATED:

1. The school is highly successful in meeting its aim to provide an outstanding academic education and an extensive range of co-curricular activities in the context of a family school.

2. Throughout the school, from the EYFS to the Sixth Form, pupils’ achievement in academic subjects is excellent.

3. At all ages, pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is excellent, they are self-aware, confident, tolerant and respectful. Relationships throughout the school are excellent.

4. Governance, leadership and management make an excellent contribution to promoting pupils’ achievements and personal development.

5. Pupils throughout the Junior and Senior Schools are particularly well educated and show excellent levels of subject knowledge, skill and understanding in line with the school’s aim to provide an outstanding academic education.

6. Pupils are skilled learners, displaying excellent levels of creativity, logical thought and independence.

7. Throughout the school, pupils show initiative and they express ideas and understanding of concepts with refreshing ease.

8. The outcomes for boarders are excellent and reflect successful implementation of boarding aims and principles.
1. Developing Learning

We seek to ensure that every pupil realises their academic potential by offering challenging, demanding and exciting lessons delivered by passionate and dynamic teachers who are experts in their field, thereby providing ‘outstanding’ teaching and learning.

We are committed to providing a curriculum, from Nursery to Sixth Form, which fosters curiosity, enables discovery and presents appropriate challenges to our pupils. We are mindful of national and international developments in curricula and assess the suitability and relevance of our curriculum regularly at each Key Stage. Our commitment is to provide the most relevant and inspiring education that we can for our pupils. We understand that effort and a ‘growth mindset’ are key factors in determining future success. We believe that people differ greatly – in aptitude, talents, interests or temperaments – however, we believe everyone can change and grow through application and experience.

We believe in encouraging pupils to extend their academic learning beyond the curriculum through extension projects, co-curricular clubs, cultural experiences and opportunities to compete in local, national and international competitions and projects. We value learning and development across all domains, from academic achievement to sporting success, from creative flourishing in the arts to developing skills and leadership through the MUN and CCF programmes.

2. Developing People

Royal Russell is deeply committed to an holistic education and to the individual development of each member of our community. This approach is underpinned philosophically by a belief that each child and adult has individual talents and the capacity to grow, which need to be nurtured in order to achieve well-being and a successful balance in later life.

Success beyond Royal Russell is as important as achievement at Royal Russell, so we seek to develop the life skills and attributes which will enable success in further study and the workplace, and the ability to adapt to these changing environments.

We value our staff and the contribution they make to the education and personal development of our pupils and, conscious of the role that all staff play as role models for our young people, we will invest in the personal development of staff to provide new career structures and leadership opportunities.
3. Developing Community

Royal Russell is a community that cares. We are welcoming and inclusive towards individuals; we celebrate the diversity of our pupils, our staff and our families, valuing each person for who they are. We continually educate and guide our young people in their abilities to look after themselves and others, both in their immediate and in local, national and world wide communities.

Our pastoral and House structures focus on relationships within and beyond the community and promote moral responsibility, respect and courage, alongside an understanding of and support for, British values. The Chapel remains at the heart of the school and encourages spiritual thinking and awareness beyond materialism and the self.

Royal Russell has always enjoyed a broad international outlook and we will develop this further with the creation of a partnership school in Korea opening in September 2020.

We appreciate that our community extends beyond the direct family and we look to build partnerships and positive relationships with local schools, our neighbours and the people who provide services to the school.

4. Developing Communications

In keeping with our practice of being a family school, we actively seek to engage all of our members: the pupils, their families, guardians and all who work at Royal Russell, with warm, timely and accurate communication.

Our intention is to maintain an inclusive relationship of mutual respect, creating a partnership with the school which sees all actively involved in the educational journey.

We recognise the value of communication skills for our students, so we emphasise the quality and clarity of written, spoken and other forms of communication and seek to be role models in this, using innovative approaches to media and technology.

We are extremely proud of the strong bond which exists with our parents, the Old Russellians, their families and our colleagues who once worked at the school.

We look to the friendship and experience of these groups to develop further support to our current Russelians and provide even greater opportunities for Russelians in the future.

5. Developing Infrastructure

The pupil environment at Royal Russell encompasses both excellent teaching and learning spaces and high quality pastoral and social facilities.

In the first phase of our Property Development Masterplan, completed in 2017, we have built new day and boarding accommodation on the east of the site which will ultimately allow upgrades in existing facilities for all Senior School and Junior School pupils. Our next phase will include extended science facilities and the second new pastoral building in preparation for the rebuilding of the Junior School.

Beyond this, we continue to develop our learning environment and specialist facilities to meet the academic, pastoral and social needs of our pupils across all areas and ages.

Our commitment to innovative use of technology means that we will also expand our digital infrastructure and use of electronic resources to provide new learning opportunities and enhanced communication across the school.
WHO WE ARE
We are a family school and embrace and support our whole community
We are passionate learners and pursue excellence in all that we do
We are ambitious for ourselves and recognise the rewards of effort, collaboration and commitment

WHAT WE DO
We provide an outstanding, academic, 3-18 co-educational experience as the family school of choice in South London

OUR VALUES
We nurture pupils’ intellectual, social, physical, creative, cultural and moral development, encouraging an enjoyment of learning and the pursuit of academic excellence within a safe and stimulating learning environment.

We offer pupils a broad curriculum and co-curricular programme for acquiring knowledge, skills and attitudes in preparation for a fulfilling and successful future.

We promote spiritual and moral values through Christian principles, emphasising honesty, integrity, generosity and a respect for other people and the environment.

We enhance pupils’ self-awareness and self-confidence, enabling them to develop their leadership skills, to value their own and others’ efforts and achievements and to develop a sense of care and responsibility for the school community and for wider society.

WHAT WE BELIEVE
We believe in the school’s motto ‘Not for oneself but for everyone’
We believe in ourselves and each other, and recognise the value of integrity and respect
We believe in the adventure of learning, discovery and play

HOW WE FEEL
We feel nurtured and supported within our happy community
We celebrate our diversity and inclusivity
We enjoy our international family connections
We feel proud to be Russellians

We are Royal Russell