



**HULME
GRAMMAR
SCHOOL**

The Hulme Educational Philosophy: “Challenge for All”

Our school's educational philosophy is founded on the principle of "Challenge for All". At the core of our philosophy is the belief that every young person, regardless of their starting point, deserves to be challenged, supported and inspired to reach their full potential.

Throughout history, it is often said that change is the only constant, but the pace and scale of change in the modern world is accelerating and no one can predict the future with any accuracy. The rise of technology, AI and other technological advancements means that the job market is constantly evolving, and the skills required for success are constantly shifting. We believe that the best way to prepare our students for the future is by equipping them with the fundamental building blocks of success: a deep and broad knowledge base, creativity, critical thinking and character.

Hulme inspires a passion for inquiry and life-long learning. We define learning as the long-term retention of knowledge and the ability to transfer it to new contexts. This definition is central to our teaching and our sequencing of the curriculum. Hulme provides a broad, knowledge-rich curriculum, designed and led by passionate subject experts. The importance of knowledge in our curriculum cannot be overstated. Knowledge acts as a ‘mental Velcro’: the more knowledge our students have, the more they will learn. Knowledge gives our students more to think with and think about.

Hulme provides a safe space for students to grow, where they are not held back by a fear of failure, and intellectual risks are rewarded. Boys and girls collaborate together, learn with each other, and from each other. They are encouraged to develop a love of reading, reading for pleasure and for knowledge. Students are challenged to debate and discuss new ideas, they are encouraged to think for themselves and question the world around them.

In addition to developing a broad knowledge base, we also believe in fostering creativity in our students. We define creativity as the ability to generate original ideas that have value. Our curriculum encourages divergent thinking, the process of coming up with multiple solutions or approaches to a problem, as a means of promoting creativity. We recognise that creativity is a vital skill in today's world, where innovation and new ideas are essential for success.

Similarly, we recognise the importance of developing critical thinking skills in our students. In the age of the internet, where vast amounts of information are available at the click of a button, the ability to make judgements and analyse information is more important than ever. Our curriculum emphasises the importance of analysing and evaluating information, rather than simply accepting it at face value. We believe that critical thinking is an essential skill for success in both academics and life and is a key tool for independent thinking.

Hulme students are students of character. In keeping with our growth mindset in all areas, we believe that character is not fixed and can be developed and enhanced. Qualities such as leadership, resilience, collaboration, and empathy are essential for success in life, and we work hard to instil and grow these values in our students. Our strong co-curricular provision, including a wide range of clubs, societies, and volunteering opportunities, provides our students with ample opportunities to develop their character and leadership skills.

To further support our teaching and ensure that we are providing our students with the best possible learning experiences, we have developed a shared language and a set of teaching techniques that we call the Hulme Teaching Toolkit. This toolkit draws on a range of research-informed teaching strategies, including Rosenshine's principles of instruction, as well as techniques from Walkthrus (Sherrington) and Teach Like a Champion (Lemov). By using a shared language, a consistent set of techniques and an ongoing commitment to staff professional development, we aim to provide our students with a coherent and high-quality learning experience.

At the heart of our educational philosophy is the belief that every student has the potential to achieve great things. By focusing on the development of knowledge, creativity, critical thinking and character, and by using research-informed teaching techniques and a shared language, we aim to ensure that all of our students are equipped with the essential skills and qualities they need to find their passion and pursue their dreams.