

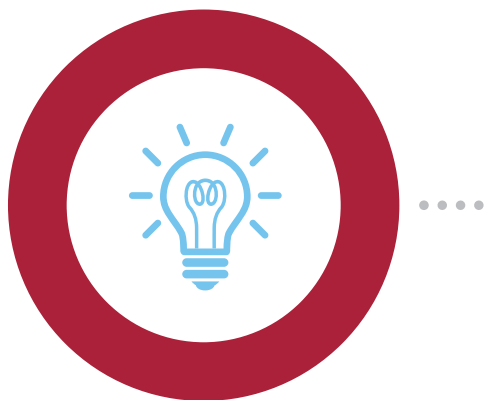


Vision & Purpose

2020/2021

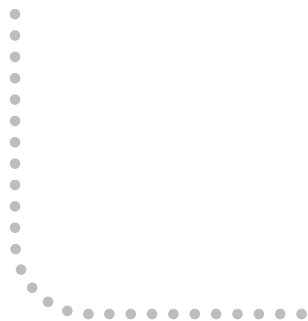
Introduction

Hamilton College is a non-denominational Christian Independent school and charity for children and young people from the ages of 2-18. The school encompasses Nursery, Junior and Senior levels generating a truly 'family' atmosphere for the individual as they journey through the school. Hamilton College is more than a school – it is a journey – a journey in education, in developing talents and gifts and in creating self-belief.



OUR VISION

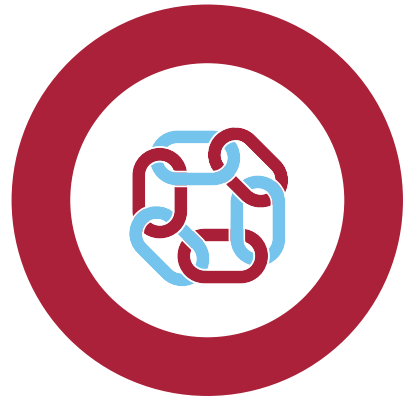
By inspiring children, together we can change their future, shape society and make an impact on our world.





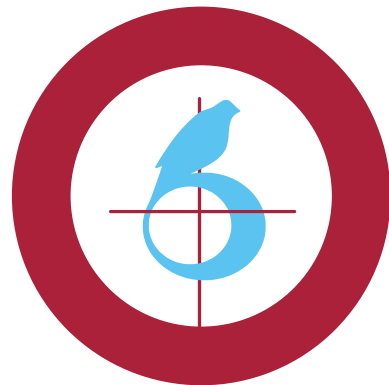
OUR PURPOSE

To be a centre of excellence in education, where children are encouraged to develop their own unique pathways preparing them for life and work and to excel in a changing future.



OUR VALUES

Grace
Confidence
Wisdom
Innovation
Compassion
Reflection



OUR FOUNDATION

To Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. II Peter 3:18

Acknowledgement

It is vital to Hamilton College that our whole Family Community is involved in how we shape our future.

The views, experiences and expectations of pupils, parents, staff, Governors and former pupils are central to the development of both the teaching and learning that is provided as well as the educational environment that is created.

Hamilton College aims to support all pupils in a holistic manner – academic challenge and support are essential but other key elements to our education include health, mental well-being, social development, guidance, life-skills, effective use of technology and faith. In doing so, our pupils will not only grow their confidence, gain wisdom, and become innovative thinkers, but they will also learn to reflect on their own life journey to ensure they act graciously and compassionately in all they do.

The whole Hamilton College Family Community engaged in the creation of our Vision, Purpose, Values and Foundation as well as the key areas of focus for the next 2 years. This ensures that these are reflective of what Hamilton College is, what it means to our Family Community and guides our school towards a successful future.

Thanks goes to all our pupils, our parent focus groups, staff, Governors and our former pupils who were involved in creating our pathway and in inspiring the future.

Background



Fundamental to Hamilton College are our **Values** and our Christian **Foundation**. In all that we do and seek to achieve these principles lie at our core. Our **Values** and **Foundation** shape the education that is provided, the teaching and learning environment that is created and the character of our pupils that is developed.

Our Purpose - *to be a centre of excellence in education, where children are encouraged to develop their own unique pathways preparing them for life and work and to excel in a changing future* – is what we aspire in all we do every day.

Our Vision - *by inspiring children, together we can change their future, shape society and make an impact on our world* – is what we journey towards as a school, as an organisation and as a charity.

To achieve our **PURPOSE** and progress towards our **VISION** we have identified four areas of focus:

1. Learning & Teaching for the Future
2. Outdoor Learning
3. Partnership Working
4. Establishing a Development Fund

By working together on these areas of focus and achieving the component Innovations, Hamilton College aims to excel in meeting our **Purpose** and driving forward our journey towards our **Vision**.

What does this mean for our pupils?

Our Vision, Purpose, Values and Foundation mean that within an environment shaped by key Christian principles and faith, our pupils grow and flourish as individuals, being encouraged, supported and challenged not only to develop their own skills, talents and gifts, but also have the confidence and self-belief to then use these in the world to make their own future, to create their own impact.

Area of Focus 1 - Learning & Teaching for the Future

Belief

Every child is valuable and can be inspired to shape the world. Academic rigour creates wonder and opportunity. Creativity and innovation cultivate skills of collaboration, problem solving and critical thinking.

Aim

To develop children for work and life in a rapidly changing world.

How will we achieve this?

Innovations 2020/21:

- Collaborative teaching across the stages in Junior School
- Deploy 1:1 devices to pupils from J6 to S6 as an additional learning tool
- Introduction of foundation apprenticeships for S5 and S6
- New S2 course - Languages for Life and Work, an exciting new language-for-life course
- New and innovative Science learning opportunities for J7 pupils led by specialist teachers

Innovations 2021/22:

- To engage with Microsoft to enhance digital literacy
- New National Progression Awards being offered where appropriate
- Enhanced professional development programme for staff

Ongoing improvement of best practice is evidenced in our School Improvement Plan.



Key results

Pupils are developed and educated to think for themselves, solving problems using higher order thinking skills. Confidence in pupils will grow, where curiosity to question is used in all learning opportunities.

As leaders of learning, staff will use the best learning methods, approaches and strategies to best meet the learning needs of all pupils.

Technologies will be used that prepare pupils for the world of work, enhancing learning by bringing research and collaborative working to the classroom to deepen learning and understanding.

Collaborative and high-quality professional learning amongst staff and the world-wide community enriches all aspects of teaching and learning.

Pupils are actively encouraged to follow their own unique pathway, accessing courses to suit their career choices and ability.

Pupils are engaged with society, giving of their time and skills to others.

Area of Focus 2 - Outdoor Learning

Belief

As growing respect for the environment creates positive impact on the world, learning will extend beyond the classroom; innovative projects enabling pupils to learn about and connect with the outdoors.

Aim

To enhance the outdoor facilities to increase spaces for learning, teaching and improving health and mental wellbeing.

How will we achieve this?

Innovations 2020/21:

- Creation of outdoor education space to inspire and stimulate teaching and learning for all age groups
- Upgrade of playground resources and equipment suitable for 5-18 year olds
- To enhance learning and teaching to develop exciting outside experiences across the curriculum
- Consolidate and expand the Nursery Forest School programme into J1 - J3

Innovations 2021/22:

- Enhance and monitor links between use of outdoor space and outdoor learning with improved health and wellbeing
- Outdoor learning woven into curriculum
- Activities and innovative teaching and learning that increase awareness of local, regional, national and global concerns and the development of a range of sustainable responses



Key results

Pupils show a deep knowledge and respect for the environment, outdoors and facilities provided.

Teachers and pupils have access to increased outdoor education facilities and resources therefore creating more active and environmentally conscious pupils.

Pupil's confidence in their innovative thinking grows due to enhanced involvement in planning, execution and outputs of the project.

Area of Focus 3 - Partnership Working

Belief

Partnerships provide inspiration, encourage self-development and lead to effective learning outcomes. Quality relationships are key to transformational learning experiences. Sourcing skills, experience and expertise from external parties highlights the positive destinations of education and allows for reflection on skills developed.

Aim

To build a learning community for all to thrive.

How will we achieve this?

Innovations 2020/21:

- Improving links with local community and clubs
- Further development of toddler group in the Nursery
- Stronger links with colleges to deliver effective foundation apprenticeships
- Encourage greater parental involvement in school improvement groups and missions
- Whole school photo competition and calendar for 2021
- Family STEM event to enhance parental engagement with learning across the curriculum
- Annual event to welcome and engage the community with the life, learning and work of the school

Innovations 2021/22:

- Specific J7 project designed to engage with the local community
- Develop family learning event planned to ensure whole school engagement
- Use of resources to develop a school community space within the current building
- Direct links with local businesses to enhance the learning within Hamilton College



Key results

Parents and staff have positive relationships built around supporting the pupil and the pupil's learning.

Greater parental engagement and involvement leads to enhanced partnership working, especially between the leadership of the school and the parent forum.

Parents feel involved in their child's education, they know what and how they are achieving and if support is required, what this looks like.

Parents feel that they are valued by the school, listened to, and given feedback on their comments.

Community is welcomed and involved with the school and attends school events.

External parties contribute to the learning environment and provide relevant insight to pupils and teachers on today's application of education in the work place.

Area of Focus 4 - Establishing a Development Fund

Belief

To ensure the achievement of our Purpose and Vision, continued development and innovation are essential. This requires us to be aspirational in our thinking, planning and execution.

Aim

To create other income streams for Hamilton College to support the work of the school and the fulfilment of its Vision.

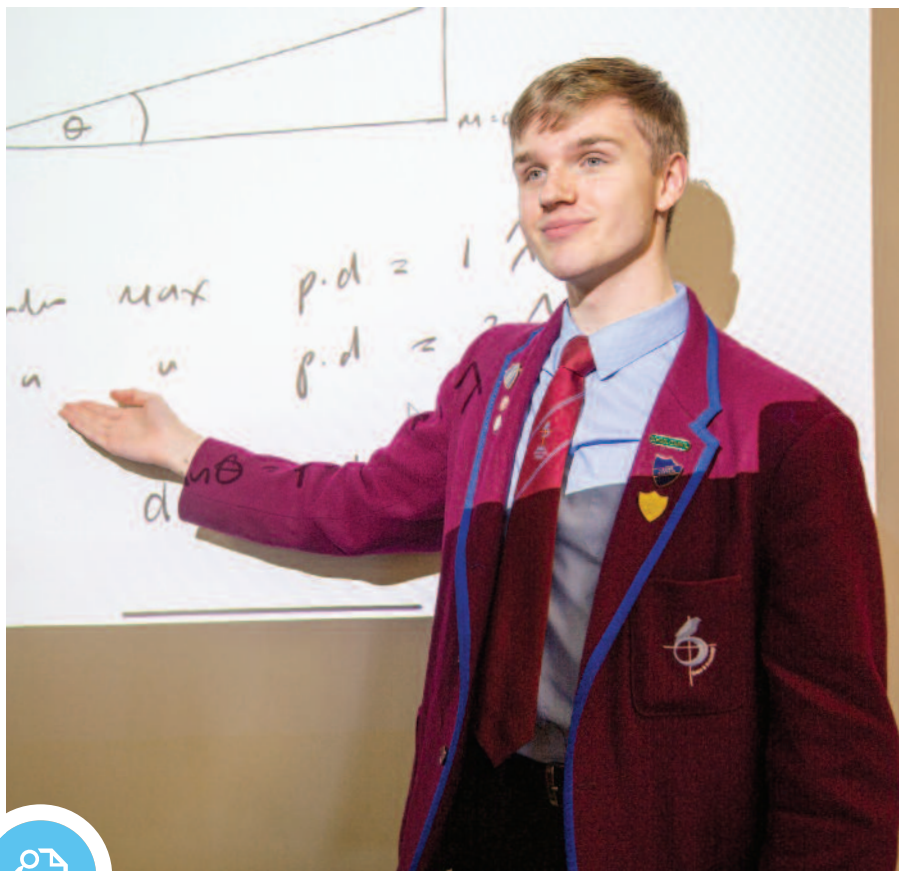
How will we achieve this?

Innovations 2020/21:

- Establish a role within Hamilton College for a Development Fund to be created, developed and administered

Innovations 2021/22:

- Key projects identified by Development Fund role
- Alumni engaged with Hamilton College and feel part of the whole school community
- Utilise grants and funding applications effectively



Key results

A Development Fund is created to allow the school to look at innovative capital projects.

The Hamilton College Alumni is engaged using the expertise of former pupils to help boost the school's profile and potentially access skills and funds.

A wide network of people bringing their expert knowledge to facilitate the business plan of the school and to act as role models for our pupils.

Our Values

Grace

To be humble, generous, and polite. To give willingly without expecting anything in return. To be aware of the consequences of our actions. To trust and forgive, valuing friendship and service.

To be respectful, honest and show integrity in all our working relationships.

To be aware of the consequences of our actions and the impact on our stakeholders and wider community. To listen, consider and always have the Hamilton College values at the centre of all we do.

Confidence

To be determined. To always do our best and celebrate achievements.

To develop our communication skills so that we can express ourselves clearly and articulately. To work well independently and as part of a group.

To fulfil our purpose daily while continually progressing towards achievement of our vision. To be aspirational in our goal setting and create a positive impact in all we do and seek to achieve. To provide opportunities for self-improvement and the sharing of new expertise.

Wisdom

To make responsible decisions founded on sound knowledge, considered understanding, and informed evaluation. To be balanced, expressing our views assuredly, while respecting other beliefs and opinions.

To grow as a team and to develop ourselves as individuals. To seek out innovative methods of working and implement these as part of the whole school development. To use our resources wisely to ensure sustainable stewardship of our assets.

Innovation

To ask difficult questions and try new things. To dare to be different. To find joy in our learning, and to inspire others. To keep trying when things get tough and to work hard, actively seeking help when we need it.

To continually evolve by providing clever, forward thinking solutions. To embrace change that produces effective outcomes. Backed by experience, research and knowledge to make bold decisions that improve ourselves, our processes and outcomes.

Compassion

To be caring, empathetic and respectful. To be a welcoming and supportive family which contributes to local, national and international communities. To be principled, honest, and fair.

To create a Hamilton College environment that is supportive, empathetic and understanding. To work collaboratively and respectfully and to listen and learn from others. To work as a team, using individuals' skills for the betterment of the organisation.

Reflection

To consider our strengths with self-awareness, while learning from our mistakes. To know ourselves, considering our relationship with God and with the wider world. To listen, think, and use our experiences to advise and support others.

To continually review our actions and decisions to ensure that they reflect our purpose and values. To develop our character and adapt our methods of working to ensure progression towards our vision. To consider how Hamilton College impacts on individuals and the wider community.



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