



Transcript of the Headteacher presentation 2021 for our Open Evening in October 2021.

Welcome to Rutlish School. My name is Laura Howarth and I'm very proud to be the Headteacher.

This is a truly comprehensive boys' school of over 1400 students where every student is supported academically and with excellent pastoral care. We believe in setting challenging learning and have unwavering high expectations.

Choosing a school in which to spend the next five to seven years is no easy task. I know that you want a school where your child will flourish both academically and socially, and where they will be stretched and inspired during lessons and enrichment activities.

You want to know if Rutlish is the right fit for your child. I hope that this presentation, our virtual tour and student videos will help you get to know Rutlish, our vision and our values. You can find this information in our admissions section of the website. Please also take time to look at our school life section including the curriculum to find out more about the school.

I expect every student to work within the school motto 'Modeste, Strenue, Sancte (Be Modest, Be Thorough and Pursue Righteousness) and to finish their time at Rutlish as empowered, confident, responsible and independent young adults. By the end of the presentation, I do hope that your decision and your child's decision will be that Rutlish is the first choice of school for you.

Every student matters. We celebrate the achievements of every individual however large or small. Whatever your child's ability, we will help them reach his full potential.

Our underlying values are simple:

- High quality inclusive education
- Happy, healthy and successful students
- A caring school community
- We aim high and we achieve together

I am very fortunate to have a talented group of highly skilled and committed staff, who believe passionately in delivering the best standards of teaching and exciting learning opportunities for all our students.

Our expectations are simple; our students:

- Embrace challenges
- Work hard
- Do the very best they can
- Allow teachers to teach and students to learn

We are proud to be in the top 5% of the highest performing non-selective boys' schools in the country. This success has been achieved by placing learning at the heart of everything we do. Our students know this the key to success and show they are ready to learn, develop techniques, practice and acquire new skills each and every day.

We have received many awards as would be expected from a really successful school. We achieved the Lawn Tennis Association Surrey County Education award in 2020. We also received four Specialist School and Academies Trust awards for the phenomenal student achievements in the last series of external examinations in 2019. These were:

- KS4 Exceptional Attainment
- KS4 Exceptional Progress
- KS5 A Level Attainment
- KS5 Progress in Vocational qualifications.

The achievements of our students, both at KS4 and KS5 have continued to show a rising trend for the last three years.

In 2017, Ofsted said that we are highly ambitious and committed to providing a truly outstanding education and that teachers have strong subject knowledge and deliver lessons that enable students to make rapid progress. Ofsted also mentioned that personal development is an important part of the school. Students have excellent attitudes to learning and are proud of their school, and that behaviour is exemplary.

Our curriculum remains broad and balanced enabling every student to experience a range of subjects, including the arts. Students can choose to continue these subjects at GCSE, BTEC and A level. During year 7 students will be taught in mixed ability groups for many subjects but in sets for English, mathematics and science. We teach through a variety of groupings to best suit the transition from year 6 and the learning needs of our students as they begin to embark on studies that might be new to them.

We have a modern curriculum and traditional values. The school is celebrating its 126th year of educating students and its 11th year of RR6 where we are "United in Excellence" providing a co-educational experience for 6th form students with our partner school, Ricards Lodge High School. We are also extremely proud of the Combined Cadet Force which has been operating for over 100 years.

The school is named after William Rutlish, the embroiderer to Charles II and we are fortunate to be on the land and in the Manor House left by John Innes, the horticulturist, who was also the Chairman of the Rutlish Trustees in the late 1800s. The Old Rutlishians' Association was established in 1906 and still has close links to the school today. As members of the Rutlish community, we are very fortunate to have the support of our Governing Body, the Rutlish Foundation, the Old Rutlishians' Association and strong historical links to the local area.

We have fantastic grounds, set away from main roads and on a large open site of more than 20 acres. The green space and clean air certainly help students to work in a cleaner, less polluted area. We are also very fortunate to have excellent facilities including a dedicated sixth form block and 11 computer rooms (which are a legacy of the former maths and computing specialism). In the last two years we have made significant improvements to the site: installed outdoor basketball hoops, refurbished the pavilion to create a fitness suite, refurbished our field and laid a new sports hall floor. We have also created a wellbeing garden. Students at Rutlish are happy and healthy.

We have high standards demonstrated by smart uniform, excellent behaviour and attendance, participation in enrichment and extra-curricular activities, and importantly Rutlish students have respect for themselves, respect for others and respect for our environment.

This year we have further enhanced our programme of wellbeing and personal development that includes our recovery curriculum with a focus on mental and physical wellbeing. The pastoral care at Rutlish is excellent.

Your child will be well supported by their Tutor, Head of Year and have access to our Inclusion department which comprises learning mentors and Place2Be wellbeing. If your child has special educational needs, we have a skilled SEND department who will help your child progress and develop.

We ensure students enjoy school, have fun and develop a sense of wellbeing through our enrichment activities. We aim for all students to benefit from exciting experiences outside the classroom including trips and visits. Our wide and varied programme celebrates endeavours, be it academically, through sport, drama, music, art, the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme or being a member of the Combined Cadet Force. These activities alongside our House system and student leadership opportunities help to foster a sense of belonging to the school and develop the whole child.

Rutlish is a very popular school serving the local community and we welcome all students to the school.

Thank you for listening.