Challenge | Commitment | Choice

Southfield School for Girls

Celebrating more than 100 years of continued success...
Welcome...

Dear Parents/Carers

I am very pleased that you are considering Southfield School as a place for your daughter’s secondary education. We are a successful 11-18 girls’ school which admits boys to the sixth form. We received our Ofsted rating of “Good” in February 2016.

Southfield has an enviable reputation in the area, with continued academic success. We’re delighted that we have been positioned as first in the Kettering area and fourth for the whole of Northamptonshire, using the new fairer measure, Progress 8*.

In addition to the school’s high standards of teaching and discipline, there is an extensive array of clubs and enrichment opportunities.

I hope that you will be able to attend our open evening to meet staff and students and to experience the school ethos, as I believe that it is something very special.

Mrs Steph Roberts
Headteacher

“Coming from a small primary school, I instantly made so many new friends and so far have had an amazing experience. I’m really looking forward to my future years here at Southfield.”

Hallie Colquhoun, Year 7

Southfield offers challenge to its students by:
- building on their previous learning
- developing their intellectual capacity to the full
- providing a stimulating learning environment
- encouraging students to aim high and maximise their achievements
- equipping students with a range of skills for life, work and future study
- stimulating a love of learning

Southfield has a commitment to:
- providing a broad and balanced curriculum
- supporting the personal and intellectual development of every student
- contributing to the good of the wider community
- building good relationships with and among students
- providing a safe environment
- promoting mutual respect throughout the school community

Southfield offers students a wide choice of opportunities:
- providing an extensive curriculum to meet the needs of all
- providing access to a broad range of extra-curricular activities
- providing experienced guidance to support students in making their choices at every stage
- enabling students to make positive choices and exert control over their present and future lives

Please see the Southfield website for the admissions criteria.

* GOV.UK Progress 8 Measure 2016.
In 2016 over 80% of all GCSE results were A* - C grades.

In 2016 79% Achieved A* - C in English (60% Nationally).
Research shows that girls in girls’ only schools make better progress than girls in mixed schools.

Girls’ brains work differently from boys’ and respond to a different style of teaching.

A single sex environment provides less opportunity for distraction.

It sets girls up for more promising careers, often in male dominated jobs. Research from London’s Institute of Education found that girls who go to girls’ schools later earn more than those from mixed schools.

There are greater opportunities to develop life skills such as leadership, confidence and independence.

When I was choosing which secondary school to go to, there was never any debate. Southfield was the school for me. I have been given amazing opportunities and excellent support to reach my highest potential.

I would not be the confident, motivated student I am today without the outstanding level of teaching and extra curriculum activities that have helped me excel in my academic life. There is nothing you cannot achieve at Southfield School.

Libby Sorbie, Head Girl
The Journey

Bonding Activities

In 2016
84% Achieved A* - C in Maths (61% Nationally)

We encourage all our students to aim high, and in 2016 76% achieved at least 5 A* - C grades, including English and Maths.

A high percentage of our students choose to stay in the 6th form and study a range of academic qualifications. They also have an opportunity to participate in higher leadership awards.

Many students exceeded their targets in 2016.

Pupils are keen to learn. They readily engage and help each other when in difficulty. They work well together in groups and individually. They are curious about the world around them, proud of their school and take pride in their own work.

Ofsted Report, February 2016

“Music Lessons”

Drama

Dance

“My experience at Southfield has been distinctly different to that at primary school; there has been more freedom to pursue hobbies at lunchtimes and we have been provided with the opportunity to flourish as individuals. The support of the staff has been incredible in this respect.”

Eleanor Hebden, Year 11
Support

Climbing club

Rounders

In 2016
86%
Achieved A* - C in Science
(48% Nationally)
Supporting our students

- All students are in a tutor group where their welfare and development are the responsibility of their tutor.
- Our tutors are supported by the student progress team and student services. Working together they ensure that all students are secure, safe and successful.
- Each tutor group represents one of six houses which encourages co-operation and team work across the year groups. This is designed to work in conjunction with our rewards system to maintain high standards of behaviour, attendance and achievement.
- All Year 7 students have weekly support sessions with their sixth form buddy.
- Highly qualified staff in our special needs department develop opportunities for students to reach their full potential as they progress through school.
- Special arrangements can be made for those students who are gifted and talented in sport and dance, enabling them to organise school work around their training demands.
- The library and ICT facilities are available after school, Monday - Thursday.
- We encourage independent learning and all students have remote access to their work and resources whilst working at home.
- The secure Parent Portal allows access to published reports and further information.

For a student who participates in sport outside of school, training and competing takes up a lot of my time, meaning my time to complete homework is much less. Southfield enables me to handle this well by allowing me to have a flexible timetable, helping me to complete my homework.

Chloe Bushell, Year 10

I am currently studying A Level French. I often get snowed under with work as my additional French work equates to another GCSE. By Southfield allowing me to have a flexible timetable to include Independent Educational Periods I am able to complete all of this work, as well as revision.

Tia Terry, Year 10

Ofsted Quotes, February 2016:

- Teachers or peers are on hand to support individual pupils having trouble. Feedback, both oral and written, is useful and responded to positively to further support learning. Pupils’ curiosity is aroused and they make connections with other learning.
- Teachers have strong subject knowledge and have good relationships with learners.
- The quality of teaching overall is good, comprising what goes on in the classroom and the numerous structured intervention arrangements devised by leaders and teachers.
- Those who understand readily support those who are having difficulties.
- Established habits, because of high expectations, lead pupils to attempt the work without hesitation.
- Preparation for next steps is exceptional, with every learner leaving their studies going on to higher education, employment or training.
Extra Curricular Opportunities

- Annual Ski Trips!
- Outdoor pursuits
- SouthStep dance tour
- Science Museum

In 2016, 41% pass rate in EBacc subjects. (24% Nationally in 2015)
At Southfield we pride ourselves on the numerous and varied extra curricular opportunities we are able to offer our students. We believe that having the opportunity to learn outside the classroom environment is of equal importance to the learning which takes place in lessons.

The opportunities include:
- Study Trips
- Residential at home and abroad
- Visiting Speakers
- Gifted and Talented Workshops
- A wide range of clubs
- The Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Young Leadership Program
- Team Southfield Membership
- Health & Well Being Champions

Pupils are courteous and polite when engaging with visitors. They offer their opinions readily. They allow others to take their turn and listen to the contributions being made.

Ofsted Report, February 2016

The Southfield Community

Southfield is committed to working with the local, national and international communities. Pupils from local junior and special schools are regular visitors. Boys and girls take part in the many partnership sporting events, exciting science shows and lessons and attend workshops for the more able to support their learning as they come to the end of their time at primary school. Our young leaders support local and county events in PE and sport and work in primary schools to support literacy and numeracy.

All ages are welcome at Southfield. Our senior citizens’ tea dances are very popular. We have links across the Commonwealth, India, South America and Africa and students travel to Europe for their language studies.

We always enjoy the tea dances and the girls who have come to visit our home have been a real credit to you! Thank you.

Jenny Standen, Activity Worker, Thorndale Care Home, Kettering
Southfield has taught me that no dream is too big. If you want something then there will be people to guide you in the right direction. In the past 5 years I have gained experiences that I would never have had anywhere else.

Rhiannon Coleman, Year 11