



Education in the Falkland Islands

The Falkland Islands Government (FIG), is responsible for the provision of education throughout the islands. Schooling is free and compulsory for children between five and sixteen years of age.

FIG's Department of Education provides this key service through its modern primary and secondary schools based in Stanley and small settlement schools in rural areas. A 'travelling teacher' service ensures that pupils who live in Camp, (the countryside) and who are outside the catchment area of the above noted small schools, have access to the education service. Older children (over 9) attend school in Stanley and board during term time at Stanley House. Stanley House is a bespoke accommodation unit built for this purpose and which has been home from home for hundreds of children since it opened in 1982.

Settlement and travelling teachers receive support from the 'Camp Education' unit based in Stanley. This unit conducts individual daily lessons by telephone and internet, then sets homework for children between travelling teachers' visits.

The curriculum is based on the English curriculum and applies similar teaching methods.

The Infant Junior School and Camp Education (IJS&CE) has 320 pupils aged from 3 to 11 years. The Falkland Islands Community School (FICS) has approximately 170 pupils in the 11-16 age range. Both schools have a staffing complement which includes a Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher, a team of teachers and learning support assistants.

All teachers are fully-qualified; the majority have trained and worked in UK. Specialist teachers from the Community School support some subjects in the primary sector.

The Falkland Islands' education system is fully inclusive; the schools share a Special Needs Co-ordinator who manages the team of SEN teachers and LSAs. A Speech and Language Therapist works for several days every week in school and there is regular contact with the health services. The department procures psychology services from UK.

The school year is divided into three terms each having a half-term break. This mirrors the schooling pattern found in the northern hemisphere. The school year begins in September. However, the 'summer' holiday follows the first term in December to allow pupils to take advantage of the Falklands' summer.



Primary Education

The primary curriculum in the Falkland Islands is based on the English National Curriculum and is enhanced by the local context. End of Key Stage tests occur at the end of Key Stage 1 and 2 (7 years and 11 years). The latest school inspection (February 2016) judged that the quality of education provided by the school remains **good**.

Classes are organised in year groups from Foundation Stage 1 to Year 6, which may have one or two classes. Current Government guidelines state that the maximum class size will be 30. There is no requirement for school uniforms, but clothing branded with the school logo is available.

Primary Education in Stanley



The Stanley Infant & Junior School and Camp Education (IJS&CE) is situated in the centre of Stanley. The main school building was constructed in 1955, with large modern extensions being added in 1990, 1996 and 2002. It is a well resourced, forward looking school with curriculum provision for pupils from Foundation Stage 1 to Year 6 and has good IT and practical facilities.

The school has well equipped classrooms, including interactive whiteboards. There is a networked computer suite with broadband internet connection. There is a well stocked library and a spacious school hall. Generous funding provides well maintained modern buildings, ample books, equipment and resource materials. Use is made of the Community School's playing field, sports hall and indoor heated swimming pool, which is a short walk away.

This community is small enough to enable school staff to have regular contact with parents and outside agencies. Staff meet with their colleagues in the school and in Camp as well as liaising with staff from the Community School. All parents receive a written report about their children in the third term of the year and parents' consultation evenings are held near the end of each of the first two terms.

There is a large range of after school activities including Brownies & Guides, Cubs, Sea Cadets, Choir, Recorders, Drama, Knitting, Watch Group, Past Finders, PE, Karate, Archery, Netball, Football and Swimming Club. The school has a vibrant and supportive Parents' Association. They have donated, amongst a multitude of items, camping equipment, digital cameras, climbing wall and playground tables. There is an active Parents' Association who raise funds for the school in a variety of ways.



Primary Education in Camp

The Falkland Islands comprise of two main islands, East and West Falkland, and several hundred smaller islands, a number of which are inhabited. These islands cover an area about two thirds the size of Wales, but are widely spread out. From Stanley in the East to New Island in the West, the distance is some 150 miles. On East and West Falkland there are about 200 miles of largely un-surfaced roads and travel across Camp is by four wheel drive vehicle, motorbike or horse.



Camp Education is for all children who do not live in Stanley; the service is co-ordinated from the main school site in Stanley. Some children attend one of our 4 small settlement schools. Others in more isolated settlements and farms are educated at home and have their educational requirements met through the combination of 2, 3 or 4 week visits from a travelling teacher, followed up with 2, 3 or 4 weeks of daily telephone lessons and homework. The telephone lesson system is in a transition phase, with the aim being to eventually use the internet for distance learning lessons.

Travelling teachers rotate round a '*beat*' of three locations; the school-aged population of each location ranges between 1 and 4 pupils. A single circuit of a '*beat*' takes six weeks. Internal air transport is provided by nine-seater *Islander* aircraft, travelling teachers also drive themselves in 4x4 vehicles round their '*beats*'. A travelling teacher works either in the home, or in a separate '*school*' building. The hours that the children are at school may vary occasionally and staff are flexible and fit in with the requirements of the farm/settlement.

Camp based staff travel to Stanley for training, workshops and some staff meetings. The service retains accommodation in Stanley for during these times.

Most children in Camp move to the school in Stanley when they are 9 or 10 years of age and lodge in Stanley House, the boarding hostel.

The ethos of Stanley Infant/Junior School and Camp Education is one of learning and enjoyment. Pupils enjoy going to a school where their educational attainment and welfare are uppermost in the minds of the Head Teacher and staff.



Secondary Education

Our vision

Through quality leadership we, at the Falkland Islands Community School, will provide the highest quality education to enable every student to realise their full potential.

The school building was opened by Lord Shackleton in 1992. It includes large, spacious classrooms with interactive whiteboards, two IT suites, two science laboratories and specialist subject rooms for learning support, art, music, design technology, food technology and textiles. The school building also incorporates:

- a 25 metre heated swimming pool, a sports hall and playing fields;
- a library well stocked with fiction and non-fiction titles as well as a range of multi-media resources.



We are striving to achieve the following core characteristics:

- the highest standards of behaviour and conduct;
 - outstanding teaching and learning;
 - a fully inclusive approach where all students are equally important;
 - a climate of mutual respect between the students, parents, staff and community;
 - positive relationships;
 - high aspirations for all involved with the school – a 'can do' attitude;
 - a wide range of enrichment opportunities for all to get involved;
 - a celebration of all the cultures and faiths represented in the school;
- a school where there are no excuses for underachievement.





Curriculum

Class sizes are very low enabling an individualised provision for all pupils regardless of inherent natural ability. At Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9) the English National Curriculum is followed in all subjects with additional content added to take account of the unique opportunities presented by the history and environment of the Falkland Islands. Pupils are academically streamed in the majority of classes, which ensures the extension of the most able alongside intensive support for any pupils with special educational needs. All pupils following a mainstream curriculum study Spanish as a foreign language throughout Key Stage 3 and the majority have achieved a high level by the end of Year 9.

At Key Stage 4 pupils complete their GCSE studies with an extensive range of both academic and vocational subjects available for study for those looking to access further and higher education, as well as the Young Apprenticeship Scheme for those pupils looking to enter the local trades straight from school. The majority of subject areas prepare students for the more rigorous International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) through the Cambridge International Examining Board (CIE). Depending on the pupil's prior attainment and cognitive ability, pupils are guided towards one of five options pathways from the highly academic to ones which allow for intensive specialised SEN support. This decision follows a lengthy period of consultation with the pupils alongside their parents, pastoral tutors and subject teachers. The school works very hard to ensure that all options can be catered for.

An extensive programme of Personal Health Social and Careers Education (PSHCE) augments the main curriculum with a number of external agencies contributing to its delivery (including the King Edward Memorial Hospital, the Police and the Social Services). Learning at all levels is supplemented by a detailed programme of homework with homework timetables circulated to students and their parents at the beginning of each academic year.

More information about the school curriculum, including a detailed programme of study for each subject in each year, can be found in the Curriculum Guide, which is available directly from the school.



Extra Curricular Activities

The school currently operates in excess of 30 extra curricular clubs and activities from mountaineering to cards and from homework support to Latin. The arts are well catered for with numerous music and art clubs as well as a thriving cross-age drama group which has recently staged two highly successful productions. Sport is also central to the school's extra curricular programme with a variety of sports clubs operating throughout the year and annual sporting events including the athletics sports day, the swimming gala and a cross country run (the 'Tumbledown Run'). A timetable of extra curricular activities is circulated to all students and their parents at the beginning of each term.

Pastoral care

The school has a vertical pastoral tutoring system with each pastoral tutor responsible for a small number of tutees from across the year groups. This facilitates increased continuity of pastoral care and allows older pupils to develop a nurturing and mentoring attitude towards their younger classmates. There is also a strong Student Council and the pastoral care of pupils is overseen by an experienced Head of Pastoral Care along with the Deputy Headteacher and Headteacher.

Parents receive a number of written and data reports throughout the academic year and there are frequent opportunities to discuss their child's progress with teachers in school both formally during official Parents' Evenings and informally.

More details can be found in the Information Booklet for Parents which is available direct from the school.

Post-16 Provision

Those students who meet the academic and residential criteria for Falkland Islands Government sponsorship are funded to complete A Levels or equivalent overseas. The school and the Education Department have very close links and a long standing partnership with Peter Symonds Sixth Form College in Winchester and Chichester College of Further Education. The Falkland Islands Government also sponsors students who meet the relevant academic criteria to continue to Higher Education.



The Training College

The Education Department City and Guilds accredited Training College offers a wide range of NVQ qualifications in Leadership & Management, Mentoring, Coaching, Social and Business development courses up to Level 7. Short courses can be accessed for CPD and mandatory training is also available on-line. The Centre is available to host overseas and local examinations, both online and paper based for a wide variety of examination boards. Evening classes are facilitated, there is a variety throughout the year. The Training and Development Centre works closely with the Falkland Islands Community School, providing 14-16 year olds with vocational qualifications; and operates an apprenticeship scheme for young adults. Plant Operator Certificates are managed by the centre, assessing Health & Safety and proficiency skills for a wide variety of plant operations within the Falkland Islands.



Young Apprenticeship Scheme



Carpentry Workshop



Classroom with interactive whiteboard



Computer workstation suite



FURTHER INFORMATION

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