



Harrow Way 50th Birthday

Anniversary Newsletter 1967–2017



Happy birthday Harrow Way

Celebrating 50 years of outstanding
teaching and learning here in the
heart of Andover





Then and Now

In 1967 we opened our shiny new doors for the very first time, welcoming just 140 students. Over the last fifty years thousands of students have walked through those doors. Initially as 11 year olds of varying confidence and abilities but all leaving as self-assured 16 year olds, bearing the hallmarks of a Harrow Way education - confident, independent and well prepared for a successful future.

Enjoy reading this 50th anniversary newsletter in which we celebrate our past, acknowledge how far we have come and take a look to the next wonderful 50 years.

Michael Serridge, Headteacher

In September 1967 Harrow Way was the first mixed modern secondary school in Andover. At the time John Hanson was the town's Grammar school and at the top of London Road there was Andover Senior Girls' School and across the road on what is now Winton Chase they had a separate boys' school.

On day one in 1967 headteacher Alan Garner said: "My one aim is to make this the finest school in the county". At the time the Harrow Way building was considered the best secondary school in Hampshire.



“
My one aim is to make
this the finest school
in the county”

It must have seemed very empty for that first year with only 140 students aged 11 and 12 in six classes. Along with Mr Garner there were 10 teachers giving a student to teacher ratio of 1:14. Facilities were somewhat limited with a metal workshop and an open air theatre although there was plenty of playing field, 18 acres in fact plus integrated tennis, netball and basketball courts.



THE HARROW WAY

You might be interested to know that our school is situated on one of the oldest roads in Britain! The Harrow Way forms part of the Old Way, one of the great prehistoric trackways and a medieval pilgrim's route from the Kent coast to the Devon coast.

The Harrow Way is the western part of the Old Way and can be traced from Farnham in Surrey, west through Basingstoke and Andover (that's us!), through Wiltshire, concluding in Seaton on the Devon Coast.

The name may derive from herewag, a military road; har, ancient (as in hoary) way or heargway, the road to the shrine (perhaps Stonehenge).

Next time any of us are asked about the history of our famous road – we now know the answer!



Highlights over the last 50 years

We're very proud of our achievements over the last 50 years. We've been ground-breaking and innovative, not afraid to try new things to get the best out of our staff and students. Here are some of the highlights:

1967

In September Harrow Way opened its doors to 140 students, 10 teachers and one headteacher – The first mixed modern secondary school in Andover, designed for 600 students

1974

Harrow Way, along with all the secondary schools in Andover, became a 'comprehensive' school



1989

Harrow Way is very much a 'community school' providing over 100 adult courses each year



2011

The Flexible Learning Centre opened to enhance students' access to learning

2014

School achieves best EVER GCSE results with 63% achieving five GCSEs including Maths and English, 70% achieving five GCSEs



2017

894 students, 108 teaching and support staff, one headteacher

**TWO NEW SCHOOLS
FOR ANDOVER**

1973

The secondary school leaving age is raised from 15 to 16. Harrow Way is extended to accommodate the extra year group

1977

The pre-school was launched at Harrow Way. Today it is Ofsted rated 'Outstanding'



1995

Twenty eight years after opening there were 826 students and 53 teachers



2012

Harrow Way was one of only five secondary schools nationally to be accredited Level 2 UNICEF Rights Respecting School



2015

Harrow Way named the most improved school in Hampshire and in the top 50 most improved schools in the entire country over the period 2011-2014



How times have changed

Much has happened globally, nationally and locally in the last 50 years. We have landed on the moon, have satellite communications, discovered DNA sequencing, joined and voted to leave the EU, invented the internet and can even facetime. These advances haven't stopped at the gates to Harrow Way, like the world around us, we too have moved with the times. We've lived through 25 different Secretary of State for Education, seen changes to the way we teach and what we teach. It's fun and inspiring to look back to see how far we've come over the last five decades with our first ever students seeing the launch of Radio 1 and Beatlemania hitting the headlines to our current students seeing the rise of ISIS, world deals on climate change and becoming the social media generation.

Enjoy this nostalgic look back...

Harrow Way
Community
School
opens



Mr Garner is the
first headteacher



Average annual
income £1380

1967.
5th APRIL.
Mr. A.F. GARNER, B.Sc. took up duty
as the 1st Headmaster of the school.
Mr. J. Hughes, housekeeper, also took up
duty.
The school buildings were virtually finished
although the school does not function
until September 1967.
6th APRIL.
Interviews for Deputy Head. Mr. A.P. FINEBERG
was appointed.

School has 140 students who
went into the 'First Year'



Radio 1 launched
September 1967

1967

First school production was
'Julian' and to this day Harrow
Way remains renowned for
Performing Arts



Beatles release iconic
Sgt Pepper's Lonely
Heart Club Band

Model Twiggy rises to
fame and hemlines rise
as skirts went mini



Colour TVs start
to become popular

O Levels were the official
secondary school
qualification

Memories of the 1960s:

"I do remember my very first day at Harrow Way, a mixture of excitement and apprehension, all filing into the main hall and being greeted by the Headmaster Mr Garner. We were then told which House we would be in and how the competitive spirit would follow us in many subjects.

It was exciting to try new subjects and once a month the boys did Domestic Science and Needlework while us girls tried our hands at Woodwork, Metalwork (in which I remember making a fly) and Technical Drawing.

Of course as we were the first pupils, it meant that each year we had all the new equipment!

Drama was a big part of my life and I took part in many productions such as Joan of Arc and Alice in Wonderland.

All three of my children attended Harrow Way, Darren, Marie and Kelly Cross and our Granddaughter Leonie Pitts left last year. There are currently two of our Grandsons, Oliver Pitts and Cayden Brooker still there with a further two in waiting"

Pat Cross (nee Hones) 1967-1972

1970s is the decade which saw the birth of both the world's biggest tech company, Apple, and the first ever test tube baby.



School is extended to include a new two storey block, additional science labs, sports hall and centre

The school years were referred to as First, Second, Third and Fourth

In 1973 a 'Fifth' year was added with the raising of the school age from 15 to 16 years

By 1971 Harrow Way had students in all five years



Harrow Way offered 12 subjects at exam level



1970s



Pocket calculator is invented



Harrow Way Pre-School is launched



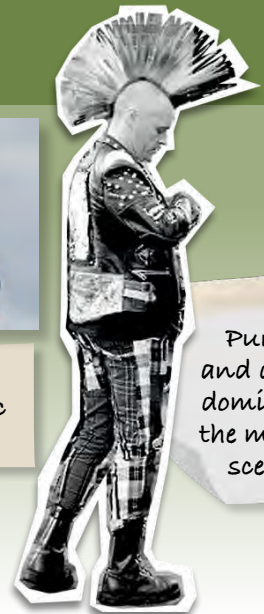
Era of the flares



Britain joined the European Economic Community



First Star Wars film opens



Punk and disco dominate the music scene

Memories of the 1970s:

"Everything was still new and shiny when I first started at Harrow Way. The white and green, square buildings seemed enormous and the facilities were wonderful.

I remember a Geography trip to Lulworth Cove, the nudists on the beach were a distraction from the rock strata and not what Mr Tomlinson wanted us to study!

The thing I remember most about school days at Harrow Way, were the brilliant teachers we had. Who could forget the English Civil War taught by Major Robertson dressed in full cavalier costume.

Mr Scicluna, Mr Polly, Mrs Macaulder, Mrs King, Mrs Wilson, Mr Anderson and Mr Findlay to name a few, even after nearly 50 years, the names and faces spring easily to mind and it is true, that you never forget a good teacher".

Sally Longley (nee Osman) 1968-1973



The Simpsons put Springfield on the map in the 1980s but our map of the world showed there was a hole developing in the ozone.



Mr Chris Overton takes over as headteacher

Harrow Way exam results 'excellent'

Harrow Way praised for excellent exam results

National Curriculum was introduced



The Berlin wall is taken down



GCSE exams replace O Levels



1980s



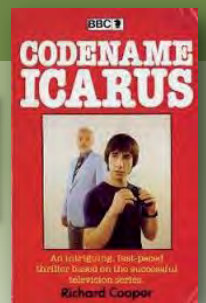
Hole in the ozone layer is discovered

World wide web is invented



Channel 4 launched

Harrow Way Students star in BBC drama 'Codename Icarus'



Harrow Way community education provides over 100 adult courses each year

Memories of the 1980s:

"I truly loved Harrow Way and enjoyed my time there seeing my friends. I was able to get a good education which has provided me with the foundations to achieving a good career now. Harrow Way taught me to have pride in myself and my home town. I am a police officer and, when I joined Hampshire Constabulary, it was always my intention to police in Andover and help serve the people that live here. Harrow Way definitely made me appreciate my home town and I now take great pride in policing Andover and the surrounding areas.

I have been really impressed with the way Harrow Way educated my 18 year old son and my daughter who currently studies there. The school really encouraged my son and it's great to see students inspired to consider their careers for the future."

Ben Lee 1985-1990

In the 1990s the science world celebrated the birth of Dolly, the cloned sheep, while Operation Desert Storm sees military action in the Middle East.



Harrow Way had 826 students taught by 53 teachers. Average class size was 22



Harrow Way win all trophies at local 'Youth Speak' competition

“

The quality of teaching was sound or better in 9% of lessons; it was good or very good in 55% of all lessons. These figures indicate that the quality of teaching is a strength of the school.

Ofsted

”



It's all about Boy Bands and Girl Power with Take That and the Spice Girls

1990s



Sony launch the Playstation

43% of 162 Year 11 students achieved 5 or more A* to C grades



eBay is founded



Nelson Mandela is freed after 27 years in prison

The Channel Tunnel opens

Harrow Way is Nickelodeon's 'School of the Week' in 1995



“It's everything that didn't get written in the Log Books that adds colour to life, and Harrow Way was a very colourful place to grow up.”

Memories of the 1990s:

“My memories are distinctive for their variety. The opportunities to do more beyond the gates were wonderfully diverse, with teachers facilitating the Youth Speaks competition, singing at the Rotary music days, and almost winning science quizzes if it weren't for that wretched Roman god of agriculture. I have not attempted another 800m, but I wonder how many schools make such an effort to engage their reluctant Year 11 PE groups by creative lesson planning, like bowling at Breakers? For me, though, the biggest impact came from learning about backstage theatre by working on so many

shows in the brand-new Auditorium, a concert in what was the soon-to-be-demolished John Hanson, pantos in Monxton, and even a festival at Thruxton Circuit. Yes, I may have learned trigonometry at school (and it has been helpful), but it's everything that didn't get written in the Log Books that adds colour to life, and Harrow Way was a very colourful place to grow up”.

Gwyn Scowen, 1995-2000

In the year 2000 we entered the new Millenium but the decade was famous for the banking crisis which tipped the world into a global recession.



Reality tv dawns with Big Brother and X Factor

Mr Charlie Currie takes over as headteacher



Flexible Learning Centre opened



Year 7 oversubscribed for first time



Harrow Way awarded unicef Rights Respecting School Level 1 accreditation

2000s



Apple debuts the iPhone



YouTube launched

facebook

Facebook launched

Ofsted rate Harrow Way 'Good with many outstanding features'



England win the Rugby World Cup

Memories of the 2000s:

"I enjoyed my time at Harrow Way - there was never a dull moment from Mr Fluellen's English classes to Drama with Mr Manson which was a highlight of the week. I will always value the confidence I gained from acting. While PE may not have been my favourite subject, Mr Hudson's lessons were always a laugh and I'm sure he would be surprised to learn I'm now part of the college Ultimate Frisbee team!

My final year I spent as Head Boy, and I most remember battling through chaotic wet breaks with a wonderful team of prefects. It was a challenging experience -

but certainly one I enjoyed! Miss Atherton's Science classes were constantly interesting - the experiments certainly stick in my mind, and as I am now studying Physics at St Catherine's College, Oxford, I intend to continue my passion for science!

Mark Todd 2009-2014

Between 2010–2017 the global population reached seven billion and medics successfully completed the first ever human head transplant.



Mr Michael Serridge becomes headteacher

Harrow Way named the most improved school in Hampshire and in the top 50 most improved schools in the entire country over the period 2011-2014



The Harrow Way Guarantee is launched

Record breaking GCSE results in 2014 with 63% achieving five GCSEs including Maths and English, 70% achieving five GCSEs

COMPUTING AT SCHOOL
EDUCATE • ENGAGE • ENCOURAGE

First school in Andover to be designated a Lead School by CAS

Harrow Way is the first school in Andover to be accredited Unicef Rights Respecting School Level 2



Awarded coveted Secondary Geography Quality Mark



Bronze award from the Teacher Development Trust Network (TDTN)



2010–2017

In 2014 Harrow Way is named in the top 20% of schools nationally for student progress between Year 7 to Year 11



Win regional finals of Coca Cola Real Business Challenge

Designated an Expert Centre for the Global Learning Programme

And today 50 years later...

60
teachers

894
students

3
BTECs

24
GCSEs courses

CiDA
(Certificate in Digital Application)

3 VCERT
Technical Awards

34
Other Staff

57
children on the waiting list



14
high level Teaching Assistants and Teaching Assistants

Memories of the 2000s:

I enjoyed a lot in my five years at Harrow Way but what really stood out for me was the way the school allowed me to thrive in my one true passion which is sport. There is not a single sport in my five years of being at the school that I didn't represent Harrow Way in.

The school were really good at identifying who needed what to succeed, and would bend or create schemes that see them get the best out of that individual child. I also made friends for life and created memories that will never leave me. I would not be the person I am today without the contribution of my days at Harrow Way Community School and I am always thankful for that.

Charlie Waite 2008–2013



50 years of technology at Harrow Way

Nothing more technical than a pen

When we first opened our doors in 1967, the technology in most classrooms would have been limited to pens, paper and blackboards. Registers, exam results, school reports, publications and data collection; things we all take as a given that computers can help us with; were all painstakingly put together by hand.



From little Acorns did mighty computer suites grow

It wasn't until the late 80s that the BBC Micro and Acorn Archimedes first started to make an appearance in classrooms and when I joined Harrow Way as a Year 7 student in 1996, the school had just made its first investment in a brand new "PC Suite" for the students.

PCs dominate

As the years progressed, PCs became the dominant computer used not only in schools but across the globe and the contents of the old Acorn suite was consigned to the big computer skip in the sky.

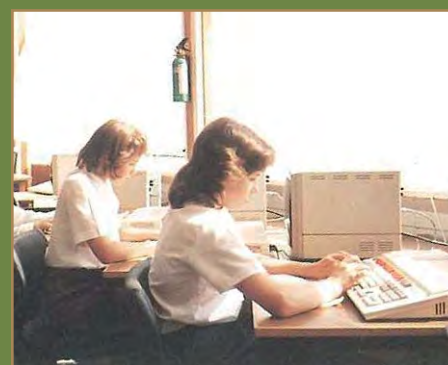
When I re-joined as staff in 2003 a lot of the back office administration had become firmly computerised. Thanks to the additional funding that becoming a Specialist School in Maths and Computing provided us in 2008, the school had grown to accommodate eight dedicated computer suites, laptops and data projection for all teachers.

There was also computer access in plenty of other non-dedicated areas such as the library, fully computerised registers, a new school website and the launch of an online Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). The ICT curriculum was expanded to include new digital skills such as web design, photoshop and multimedia skills; and of course e-mail for everyone.

Commonplace technology

Things certainly haven't stopped there though and students today are exposed to more technology as part of their day-to-day learning than ever before. As our world moves increasingly online and the devices that allow us to access that world become smaller, cheaper, smarter and increasingly pervasive, I can only imagine that the days of having to visit a 'Computer Room' to produce work, carry out research or access software are numbered.

So much of what would traditionally be produced on paper has now moved to the internet – we now deliver homework diaries, learning resources, examinations, reports to parents, communication between staff, students and parents and so much more besides.



What does the future hold?

Every student is now taught the basics of computer programming languages and we're starting to explore what the world of every student having their own computing device might look like; as well as taking a look at brand new technology – like virtual reality and 3D printing. As the number of 11-16 year olds with a smartphone in their pocket moves ever closer to 100%, a thought that was almost unimaginable only a single school "generation" ago, allowing easy access any time any place to the kinds of educational resources that would have blown the minds of a student at the brand new Harrow Way school in 1967. We can only begin to imagine what the world of technology might look like to Harrow Way students by the time we reach the year 2067.

Giles Davis, Network Manager and former student, 1996-2001

Successful Alumni

Thousands of our students have enjoyed happy, fulfilling and successful careers. Far too many for us to highlight in this newsletter but it is with a great sense of pride that we can give you a brief snapshot of just a handful of our former stars who have gone on to great things

Paul Roberts OBE

**Chief Executive Officer
LGBT Consortium**

Paul is the first to admit without the support of the staff at Harrow Way he would not be where he is today.

In 1997, Paul's final year at school, he came out as gay in what he describes as:

"A very positive environment with support from staff which was fantastic". Paul believes it is this support which has led him to where he is now as Chief Executive Officer for the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) Consortium, an umbrella body for LGBT organisations across the UK. Paul was recently awarded an OBE by The Prince of Wales for his work with the LGBT communities.

He said: "If it hadn't been for the support I received from the staff and teachers at Harrow Way when I came out I wouldn't have the confidence I have now to give speeches, meet government officials and talk to royalty".



Press Association

Nicholas Barber

**Associate Professor of
Constitutional Law.
University of Oxford**

"I arrived in Harrow Way just as the school's first headmaster, Mr Garner left and the second, Mr Overton arrived. The school was a dynamic, changing, place. There was a lot going on: its drama department was, of course, famous within Andover, but I remember being struck by the diversity of different forms of teaching throughout the school. On reflection, I suppose that the technological changes of the 1980s were felt throughout the school and I was lucky to be at Harrow Way at this time. The sorts of skills I learned – the projects we produced, the type of essays we wrote – stood me in good stead for A-Levels and university. While there was plenty of support on offer, the school also encouraged self-reliance and creativity – the most valuable lessons that Harrow Way taught me".



James Tomlinson

Hampshire Cricketer

"I consider myself very lucky to have had very passionate teachers who, like me, loved their cricket. They existed all throughout the school – the Deputy Head, in the PE, Drama and Science departments.

These teachers went out of their way to take the teams to games, score and coach us.

Without them, cricket would not have existed at Harrow Way and with cricket now being taken out of the state system it's a massive shame.

From a young age I realised I liked being around people and at Harrow Way I met a vast array of individuals from very different backgrounds. I learned how to communicate with different types of people, which really helped me deal with all the personalities and (egos!) in a cricket team and now when I coach Hampshire's young bowlers".



BBC/Love Productions/Charlotte Medlicott

Josh Barnett

Star of the BBC's Great British Sewing Bee

While studying at Cardiff Metropolitan University Josh first stumbled across a sewing machine and with the help of YouTube videos taught himself to sew. This led to the creation of a men's fashion label and appearing on hit television show the BBC's Great British Sewing Bee. Josh was the last man standing, reaching week 4 of the competition.

Josh is inspirational as someone whose career as a professional footballer did not pan out how he envisioned. His message to Harrow Way students earlier this year was to ensure they put every effort into whatever they do. They should never give up and grasp every new opportunity because, like him, they may be surprised what they end up doing. Some Harrow Way spirit will always stand them in good stead he advised.

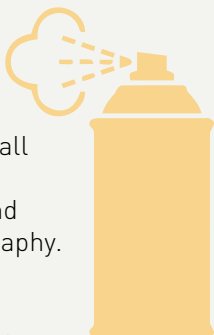
A school genuinely loved by all

It seems that whatever the connection people have with Harrow Way, it leaves its mark. Whether a parent, a current student, someone who studied here 10, 25 or indeed 50 years ago, there is an unmistakably fondness for our school. We're very proud that a number of teachers dedicate their entire career to teaching here and of course special thanks must go to those of our students who enjoyed it so much they came back to teach here!

Students who loved it so much they became teachers

Mr Woods – attended 1984-1989

The things I remember: Exploding tippex bottles, giant ice slides on the tennis courts and breakdancing in the hall (it was the 80s!) Dissy slips if you were naughty, credit slips if you were good and getting caught reading Viz during Geography. Hairspray, lots of hairspray.



Mrs Thompson – attended 1993 - 1997

Things I remember: Lessons were good, I always felt like I was learning what I needed to. However, it's the extra-curricular side that really stuck with me. Taking part in drama productions, going on ski trips and going to the Center. They allowed me to experience independence that



you didn't have at primary school, vital in the progression from child to young adult.

Mrs Winnett – attended 1993 – 1998

Things I remember: I loved GCSE Spanish, which was taught to me by Mr Warren. I achieved an A* and almost took it at A-Level but at the last minute changed to Sport Studies - where would I have been now! I loved being part of the school sports teams, although was (and still am!) disappointed that I was never made a Sports Prefect with the red and green ties.



Mr Bowry – attended 2003 - 2007

What I have come to realise is how much work the teachers had done for myself and classmates, and being back in school, as a member of staff, has made me appreciate the effort they made even more (especially since quite a few of them are still doing it!)

Mr Smallbones – attended 2011 - 2015

Harrow Way really prides itself on being "the finest for miles around" - when the school has such high expectations for itself, with a zero tolerance for bad behaviour and bullying, good traits really propagate throughout the students.



A family of teachers

Harrow Way is like a big family. All of the students and staff care for each other and work together to make everyone successful. So many of the staff have been here for years - Harrow Way gets under your skin and makes it very hard for you to leave.

Mrs Lowing,
Assistant Headteacher

Harrow Way has always had a family feel and that has certainly been the case for me. I came as a PGCE student and have been an NQT, Head of Year, Lead Teacher and now Associate Senior Leader. I have had my school mummies Jan Cunningham (my mentor now retired) and Anita Parfitt (my amazing technician). I am now no

longer the baby but am experienced teacher that now trains other trainee teachers.

Miss Atherton,
Associate Senior Leader

I love working at Harrow Way, it is a friendly, inclusive environment where everyone is willing to help each other but most importantly it is always all about the pupils and helping them be the best they possibly can!

Mrs Law,
Teacher of Food Preparation and Nutrition

Harrow Way has been a 'work family' to me for the last seven years. There is a real community feel and

everyone works together on mutual goals. There is something very special about Harrow Way which makes people stick, sometimes for a very long time!

Mrs Essop – Curriculum Leader
– Humanities



A school loved by parents too



Harrow Way was definitely the right choice of school for both of my boys and has helped them to individually find their full potential. The most important thing for me as a parent is that they have always been happy at the school.

Colleen Tugwell

Our daughter in Year 9 is flying. Her Maths teacher is pushing her class on to A Level work, stretching her to achieve her best. I love the three year Key Stage 4 starting in Year 9, as it has given her an extra year working on her final GCSE subjects so going into Years 10 and 11 she feels prepared and confident that she has made the right decisions. Our other daughter in Year 7 has settled in brilliantly. She is also doing well, finds her lessons interesting and enjoys taking advantage of all the new things she can try.

I can honestly say my children love Harrow Way!

Nicola Farrelly

We chose Harrow Way for our four children first and foremost because the teachers had high expectations of students to succeed and were genuinely enthusiastic about their subject. It was the first choice school for all our four children because of the strong, forward thinking leadership team who had aspirations to improve the school even more

Rachel Cox

Some love from our students

The best thing about Harrow Way is hard to pin down: whether it is the excellent, hard-working teachers or the friendly community, there is something uniquely special for everyone here. Both staff and students give it their all, and it makes for a wonderful experience.

Katie Scratchley



Spending the last five years at Harrow Way has been a real privilege. I have seen so many changes and been on so many trips. I have been given many great opportunities and I am proud to say that I have grabbed them with both hands, making my time here worthwhile. I was part of the School Council making changes for the next generation and I can't wait to see what they do with the things we have done and where they take the school next. I also hope that I will be around in another 50 years to see how much better the school will be by then.

Noah Lynam

During my time at Harrow Way, I have had the opportunity to get to know the teachers here, and how much they care about our education. They're passionate, enthusiastic and plan engaging lessons and revision sessions. This school has amazing facilities on offer, such as the many computer rooms, sports equipment and the new food pod. The school caters for every need, thanks to the Flexible Learning Centre and the great teaching staff. It has been a privilege to spend five years at Harrow Way and I will miss the school greatly.

Ethan Hawes



Harrow Way today

A thriving school

There's no question that Harrow Way is thriving. Our exam results continue to excel year on year and we regularly achieve our 'best ever results' as the teaching and learning here is increasingly outstanding.

Last year an impressive 63% of students achieved an A*-C in English and Maths. We were delighted with the English results with 75% of students achieving A*-C. In Maths 73% of students achieved A*-C.

English A*-C

75%

Maths A*-C

73%

A*-C In English
and Maths

63%



Leading the way in teaching and learning

We lead the way in much of our teaching practices. A number of industry bodies representing various curriculum areas have acknowledged our expertise and we have received a number of leading awards.

Striving for the highest quality of teaching and learning is the bedrock here at Harrow Way and we were particularly proud that the Teacher Development Trust Network (TDTN) recognised the high standards of training we provide to all members of staff at the school. In December 2016 they awarded us their prestigious Bronze Award. Commenting at the time Mr Serridge said: "To quote educational expert Dr Dylan William, 'If we can create a culture where every teacher believes that they need to improve, not because they are not good enough but because they can do

even better, there is no limit to what we can achieve'.

That's the philosophy at Harrow Way, no matter how good our results get and how well our students do, we will continually strive to improve the standards of teaching here by ensuring we have the very best teachers.

Other feathers in our cap and awards adorning the school reception include the coveted Secondary Geography Quality Mark, we were the first school in Andover to be designated a Lead School by CAS (Computing at School) and we are a designated Expert Centre for the Global Learning Programme.



COMPUTING AT SCHOOL
EDUCATE • ENGAGE • ENCOURAGE

A true community school

It's not just educating 11-16 year olds which is our forte.

The school doesn't stop bustling when our 894 students leave for the day. We have a thriving adult leisure course provision ideal for those looking to try something new such as learning French or Spanish, looking to develop an artistic flair with Chinese Brush Painting or inspired by Strictly's professionals to take up ballroom dancing.

The sports hall, climbing wall, gym and auditorium are also in high demand by local sporting clubs, dance and drama groups. Take a look at our website if you fancy doing something new in your spare time or are involved in a club or activity that needs outstanding facilities.



Starting them young



In 1977, we opened our pre-school and for nearly 40 years it has provided children age two years and nine months through to five years old with a safe, nurturing environment where they can develop and progress happily, exceptionally well prepared with the skills they need, ready for school. According to Ofsted we are 'Outstanding' at this.

“

It seems there can be no better start to a child's education than with the pre-school and no better conclusion to a secondary education than Harrow Way. ”

What does the future hold for Harrow Way?



It's been fun having a nostalgic look back at the last 50 years but we very much have our eye and ambitions on the future here at Harrow Way Community School.

“We have one simple ambition: to be the finest secondary school for miles around.”

We believe that a great school never stands still and strives at all times to excel in every area of its performance for the benefit of all our young people and other stakeholders.

Over the next few years we will continue to develop the four strands of our DNA which sets us apart from other schools.

What is in our DNA?

‘Learning for life, success for all’

Outstanding teaching and learning

Striving for the highest quality in teaching and learning is the bedrock of Harrow Way. Every decision is made with the question in mind ‘will this help the students to be better learners and to achieve more?’

“We believe in a relentless focus on high achievement in all areas of the life of the school.”

Outstanding progress is achievable by all

We believe all students deserve an education that will challenge, inspire, and prepare them for a better future. We want our students to have high aspirations for themselves and to become resilient learners.

At Harrow Way we want our students to be relentlessly optimistic about possibilities and their capacity to learn. Every student at Harrow Way will be expected to achieve the best outcomes possible in all aspects of school life. We will strive to balance academic achievement with 21st Century learning skills.

High standards in all that we do

The culture that has been established is about a relentless focus on high standards in all aspects of school life: learning, behaviour, attitude, uniform, attendance and punctuality. We insist upon consistency and a commitment to shared values – by individuals, groups and the whole community.

“We will always challenge anything that is less than the very best that each individual can give.”

All are role models

At Harrow Way we are proud to be a UNICEF Rights Respecting School which promotes the Rights of the Child. Every adult in our community is a role model; every student is a role model and we all have the opportunity and responsibility to have a positive impact on the lives of others.

We are an inclusive and caring school and ensure that students have fun and are happy in their learning. Excellent relationships between staff and students create a positive learning environment.



The next 50 years

Will they even be called 'schools' in the future?

There is no doubt the teacher/student relationship is changing. Increasingly teachers are acting more as facilitators rather than keepers of all knowledge and students are driving their own education to the path that they feel best fits them.

In the future, employers may not be as concerned with a diploma. They'll look more at portfolios and examples of how students contributed to solving real-world problems. They'll want to know how well they worked in a team.

We anticipate a different way of thinking and problem solving will be demanded by employers of the future all looking for 'Solution Fluency' - the ability to think creatively to solve problems in real time by clearly defining the problem, designing an appropriate solution, delivering the solution and then evaluating the process and the outcome.

The Global Digital Citizen Foundation predicts 21st Century fluencies will be:



Solution Fluency

develop problem solving
super powers



Creativity Fluency

unleash the inner Picasso



Collaboration Fluency

bring together
unstoppable teams



Information Fluency

learn Sherlock-style
data skills



Media Fluency

be the next Spielberg



Global Digital Citizenship

be global and be great

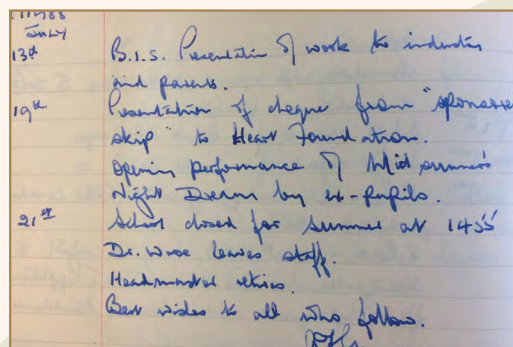
It is exciting to consider that we as a school, will be at the forefront of developing these 21st Century thinkers where fluency is the currency over skills or qualifications. We can only begin to imagine our ideal future classroom!

From one headteacher to another

In July 1992 Harrow Way celebrated its 25th Anniversary. In the newsletter of that month Mr Overton, the then headteacher, commented: "The developments and pressures within present-day state schools would have been unimaginable in 1967. Nevertheless, Harrow Way continues to thrive because of the enthusiasm, drive, dedication and commitment of its teaching and non-teaching staff, the attitude of its pupils and the support of parents and the local community as a whole".

Those words and sentiments apply today as much as they did 25 years ago. It really is the people - the staff and students, parents and community, our Harrow Way family, which still defines this school. It clearly was a special place in 1967 as it was 25 years later in 1992 and as it remains today.

Mr Overton concluded his 25th Anniversary newsletter with the following comment: "I sometimes reflect on what the next 25 years will bring. Who knows, a log book entry for the end of the summer term in 2017 might not be too dissimilar from Alan Garner's entry on 21st July 1988."



Sadly, as headteachers we are no longer required to keep log books but I am sure if we did ours would be full of the many successes and achievements which happen every day here at Harrow Way. Like my predecessors I would proudly document life in a school which leaves its hallmark on all those who work or study here.

Michael Serridge

Harrow Way Alumni

The Harrow Way Alumni Association (HWAA) aims to keep everyone in touch, to share experiences, to inspire and motivate our current student body and to highlight how Harrow Way shapes its students' future lives. We hope to connect or reconnect our former students with news and regular events.

What are you doing now? Do you keep in touch with your old school friends? What is your fondest memory of the school? Do you have any old photos of your time at Harrow Way?

Please go to our website at www.harrowway.hants.sch.uk to register.

Dates for the diary

Saturday 8 July 2017 a 50th Anniversary Festival to be held at Harrow Way.

Please join us on **Tuesday 11 July 2017** for a Harrow Way 50 Memories Exhibition and coffee morning.



Harrow Way Community School
Specialist School in Maths & Computing

Learning for life, success for all