



## The Helena Romanes School

Parsonage Downs, Great Dunmow, Essex CM6 2AU

Telephone: 01371 872560

Facsimile: 01371 874632

Website: [www.helena-roman.essex.sch.uk](http://www.helena-roman.essex.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Simon Knight B.Ed (Hons), MA

March 2016

Thank you for your interest in joining us at The Helena Romanes School. I hope you find the accompanying information useful.

The Helena Romanes School is improving and developing and I believe that it is an exciting time to join us. In November 2012 an Ofsted inspection graded the school as "good", making 2012 our best year with the highest GCSE results and achieving Academy status.

I am looking to the staff, students and the local community to be part of ensuring that we continue to improve and become a centre of excellence for learning in Great Dunmow. We were awarded **Specialist Schools** status in Humanities, with English as the lead subject, in July 2006. This included, as our capital project, a Learning Zone.

The school has 1254 students, including 184 Sixth Form Students. In September 2015 we admitted 211 Year 7 students.

The Helena Romanes School has been formally involved in the training of teachers since 1995 as part of the Mid-Essex SCITT Consortium and more recently with students from Middlesex and Bedford University. Since that time, with the addition of OU, APU and GTP student teachers, the school has become a centre of high quality training provision in its own right. The Helena Romanes was awarded **Training School** status in 2003, which was renewed in 2007, in recognition of the many training activities run by, and coordinated from, the school. Staff have been recruited to HRS as a result of the ITT programme. The resultant culture of professional dialogues, mentoring, and close observation has laid the foundation for our self-evaluation process.

There is a stable core of experienced staff and a strong individual and collective commitment to continue to improve the school. As part of our outreach work, we are members of the Consortium for School Improvement (CSI), committed to the sharing of good practice amongst local schools.

Our School Improvement Plan sets out the vision, strategic objectives and planning for the next year. The Plan has three strategic objectives:

- S - Stretch and challenge
- T - Thirst for learning
- M - Marking to show progress over time

Making the decision to join The Helena Romanes School at this time is an important one for you, but also for us. If you have the enthusiasm and drive to join us in making a real difference; we have 1254 students and 190 staff who deserve the best. Having read the information, if you are keen to consider working with us or, maybe, even just wish to know more, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Simon Knight  
Headteacher