

Our Perfect Day at the Alford Campus

A sense of arrival and identity. It's modern, colourful, bright and interesting. A place that doesn't feel restrictive but challenging. A buzz where we're solving problems and taking varied challenges. Understanding and connected with others, mutual respect and community spirit. Like a nice, hot sunny day, with happy faces, good attitudes and laughter. Smiling faces. Feels not too much like a school – it's a campus. Friendly, polite, and non-grumpy – nice staff and pupils obedient, no detentions. All pleasant and engaged with good behaviour, good attitudes, plenty of laughter.

A sense of pride that the school has produced more energy than it used, its eco-friendly and self-sustainable. Recycle facilities are integrated. We have solar panels, wind turbines and motion sensor lighting in bathrooms and classrooms.

We have space, plenty space. Large teaching areas and spacious staffrooms. Learning spaces that are big enough to encourage creativity, having room to express yourself physically. Wide corridors and windows to let in light. Windows at different heights and sizes to suit different ages. Natural light to lift spirits, glass ceilings above corridors like rivers through the school. Blue sky, natural light, good views, learning in a nice bright environment with window seats.

Everyone to feel a sense of belonging, breakfast club, lunchtime activities, open sessions after school, youth groups, and drama productions. Homely and warm with pot plants on the windowsills – a sense of home. Easy access and equality for all ages, creating adaptable spaces to accommodate feeder primaries as well as returning leavers. Full disabled access, not too many stairs, escalators, travelators and lifts. It's welcoming, friendly, traditional, supportive, a sharing atmosphere. Bright, crisp, autumn leaves.

Stimulating with lots going on like Ramboland with a revolving tower, a teleport and "Harry Potter" spiral staircases. No stairs – lifts up, slides down. No one ever comes off a slide grumpy. Community spirit working together, all ages using comfortable spaces to run groups in, like a scout hut or common rooms. Community space to use in the daytime, evening and weekend. Shared and equal ownership of the building – working together with sharing facilities – IT, PE, science, home economics, training pools and lanes, a leisure pool with slides. We could have – at certain times- a designated part of the corridor, clearly marked (like a bus lane) for older people or for people with prams or a disability. Community in the school working in industrial/retail units. Seeing the community and people going about their business in a café/bakery/IT centre. Screens showing twitter feeds on various topics around the school, which pupils are able to contribute to by txt'n to the school's collaborative number. Bebo and MSN access. Connections to all communities via video links and big glass walls/whiteboards for public collaboration and note taking in public reflective space. Displays of work from pupils and communities, flexible display areas – that do not remain static. Local art community displays.

Can buses drop off in village? Maybe not. Good access for transport to campus and within the campus – regular transport links and regular buses throughout the day to allow access all day to visitors. Bike racks that are a modern and effective shape. To promote exercise we

need safe places to leave our bikes, like bike racks. Pick up zones away from school. Separate buses and car areas. Shelters – gathering point for parents dropping off and picking up young children.

Cake and custard creams. Reflective spaces to process the day's "downloads". Spaces to read in a relaxed atmosphere-more like a bookshop with coffee and sofas. There are informal spaces for creative thinking/writing etc – for when the mood takes you. Space inside and out that we can have quiet- a quiet area for thinking. Play areas away from relaxation areas to reduce noise. Our own space; somewhere to go that's just yours, and storage so that people can have their own space within shared spaces. Small rooms for counselling one to one so they're not intimidating but cosier. These could be opened out to make bigger rooms. Meeting rooms with privacy, social work offices, leadership meeting spaces and a dedicated pre-school room and a well equipped crèche. Chill out rooms for relaxation and to make us peaceful and calm. Curved walls – look better, calmer, hard edges are confrontational. Relaxed, with coffee on tap (decaf), cake on demand, comfy leather sofas, some spaces with bean bags in a relaxed, intimate, reflective environment.

Benches and nice places to sit and talk with my friends. A warm spacious, light room for activity for older people with outdoor access (benches, tables, garden area, flowers) pupil support and help, involved with school, integration opportunities. No long benches – more informal. Shared social areas for adults/children/community. Common rooms – space, comfort, good facilities (computers tables chairs, good resources, paper, pens) good atmosphere. Relaxing. Comfortable seats. Small seated areas, partially separated from bigger areas, cosy and private safer. Comfy seats in assembly. I want to sit and chat with my friends with a coffee in a warm cosy area with a view. Socialise with others, meet friends, gathering, having fun, everyone getting along.

Couthie feeling. Café style culture within social spaces – comfortable area – seats/tables – open to community/accessible. A café not a canteen. Cake and coffee like Starbucks and have more choice of food like sandwiches and hot food but in different locations around the campus. Eating facilities – café layout for more friendly, less school feel – several choices, not all council run – maintained – clean. Dining areas only – spacious canteen large service area simple. Shared restaurant/coffee bar facilities in different areas. Bright dining area – separate primary and academy. Good lunch. Good canteen. Wide choice of food. Eating facilities on site, a nice lunch place and a variety and choice of spaces. I want a classrooms away from dining hall kitchens.

Sports facilities for the Olympics, like running fields, the shot put, javelin and discus. And a golf course – a practice range for public use and the school could use it for P.E. A good game of football on Astroturf. All weather sports facilities. A swimming pool, warm training pool and sports gym with showers which have been designed at heights for adults and children. Still have access to the ski slope and skate park. Outdoor space, outdoor clubs, outdoor activities. Outdoor spaces that are comfortable, peaceful, accessible and open to the community a friendly environment for everyone. A learning outside and inside day with practical learning. Access from classrooms, corridors and community rooms to outside. Doors big enough to fit vehicles in. Large workshops with outdoor access. Places I can walk, maybe a garden. To be outside lots, a garden classroom which can be booked for lessons

– privacy yet outdoors. Comfy seats and shelter pods. I want to go outside when it gets hot.

I want my office away from music lessons. Soundproofed music rooms that we can make lots of noise in. Well-insulated music rooms that are not noisy but have good acoustics. Good acoustics make a calmer atmosphere. A performance space that has a technician so we don't have to climb ladders and hang our own lights. Activities that are physical and artistic. Dancing and concerts and music.

Well-designed rooms - no smelly home economic rooms! Our classrooms have a variety of spaces; reading areas, computer areas, and role-play areas and for learning and social time. More flexible classrooms to change the atmosphere but still a structure for some lessons such as maths. Lots of discussions. A desked area to allow written work, a computer area for design projects and less formal areas in our classroom too. Metal and woodwork in different rooms. Comfortable furniture – flexible and adaptable. A relevant library – popular culture. Good resources and accessible resources like Acer laptops for every pupil and interactive whiteboards and projectors in every room. Positive technology, technology and equipment that works, we want to be well equipped. We would have state of the art technology like wireless access throughout the campus.

Space where we can work with people, that is safe, welcoming and comfortable. Space to be safe and address bullying concerns and be anti-graffiti. I walk into a toilet that feels like one that's in my home. No intimidating older girls hogging the loos with their make up. Separate make up/ freshen up areas. Hot water, soap, blade dryers, clean space, fresh smell, high windows for privacy, windows that open and automatic flushing toilets. Spread out toilet facilities, lots of smaller toilet areas rather than large central one some close to all departments. Pods for the toilets – more privacy. Shower facilities – pupil/staff/community changing rooms. Lots of changing room that can double as make-up areas. . Wide corridors to make you feel safer and one way corridors in high activity areas. Not getting lost. Lockers to deposit bags for corridor safety - lots of lockers, pupil lockers and lockers in changing rooms. Locks and security on changing. Lockers for security, not in corridors but in alcoves off corridors. A choice of where the lockers are. We'll have lots of storage spaces and storage rooms for tools and materials - storage, storage, storage and more storage. Art rooms with a place to store work away from the classroom area and to work in a classroom that is clean and tidy with everything I need stored there.

A nice reception maybe a large tree at Christmas. The entrance should be obvious - visible from the village with a welcome reception for parents. Pupils should have their own entrance that is just as important as reception. When you arrive the seating should be comfy but not too comfy. An information centre. Arriving on a cold winter day to see wood burning stoves in key areas, sense of warmth, family, cosy – gathering places.

We want it to go from good to great, for it to be a celebration and feel like an achievement.