

SCHOOL REPORT

Amanda Foreman

SCHOOL: Hanford
PROFESSION: Historian



REBEL OR SWOT? I was a swot and my happiest days were spent in a comfortable arm chair reading.

WHAT DID YOU DO BEHIND THE BIKE SHEDS?

Hanford has stables rather than bike sheds. Girls are able to spend time there and help look after the ponies. If I ever needed a cry there was nothing like hiding out there.

WHAT'S THE BEST/WORST COMMENT ON ONE OF YOUR SCHOOL REPORTS?

I cannot remember any school reports! It was all too long ago and we didn't keep them.

NAUGHTIEST SCHOOL PRANK?

I was never that naughty in Prep school but we all played dares at night, testing our mettle against the matrons with various acts of derring-do. I think the things we did, like race all round the top floor without getting caught (Hanford is a Jacobean House that was built around a courtyard) seemed naughtier when we were 11!

PROUDEST MOMENT?

When I succeeded growing lettuces in my vegetable garden. Hanford grows much of its fruit and vegetables in its walled gardens and girls are able to garden small areas if they choose.

FAVOURITE SCHOOL MEMORY?

Visiting Hanford after I had left and talking to Sarah Canning whose wise words of encouragement gave me a great deal of confidence to keep going. Sarah Canning is the daughter of the founders of the school. She imbued the school with her indomitable spirit and today continues to run the riding school and teach Latin.

IF YOU COULD HAVE YOUR SCHOOL YEARS AGAIN WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?

I would write down my conversations with Sarah Canning and her mother, 'Old Mrs C', so I could remember them for later.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE CURRENT PUPILS?

Listen to Sarah Canning. She has a full life of experience and many girls before you have benefited from this and carried it with them through their lives.

THREE REASONS TO GO TO HANFORD:

There are a hundred reasons to go to Hanford. I know I will make many mistakes as a parent but the one choice I don't have to worry about is sending my four girls to Hanford.

www.hanford.dorset.sch.uk

HANFORD SCHOOL



ADDRESS: Childe Okeford, Blandford, Dorset DT11 8HN

WEBSITE: www.hanford.dorset.sch.uk

FOUNDED: 1947

NUMBER OF PUPILS: 110 girls

AGES: girls 7-13

FEES: Boarding £5900, Day £4900 per term

HEAD TEACHER: Nigel Mackay

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Church of England

ENTRANCE PROCEDURE: No formal entrance exam.

All enquiries welcomed

CONTACT: Angela Jenke, 01258 860219

EMAIL: hanfordsch@aol.com

SCHOOL VISITS: Prospective parents at any time by appointment.

Open Day 20 March 2010, 10am-12.45pm

THE CURRICULUM: Our curriculum is based on the Common Entrance syllabus which incorporates the National Curriculum. In addition: Latin, IT, Religious Education, Drama, Music and Music Appreciation, Art Appreciation, Art, Pottery and Handwork.

GAMES & THE ARTS: Sport covers netball, hockey, tennis, gymnastics, cricket, pop lacrosse, rounders, athletics, cross country and swimming. Hanford is famous for its riding with ponies for all levels and ages.

PASTORAL CARE: Hanford provides a secure framework for the emotional well being and educational security of its girls. All receive individual attention and support in the context of a homely and happy atmosphere.

SENIOR EXIT SCHOOLS FOR THE LAST ACADEMIC YEAR: Sherborne Girls, Bryanston, Benenden, Leweston, Marlborough, Cheltenham Ladies, Tudor Hall, St Mary's Shaftesbury, St Mary's Calne, Bedales, Roedean.

RECENT SCHOLARSHIPS: Academic - Bryanston and Sherborne Girls. Music - St Mary's Shaftesbury and Sherborne Girls. All-rounder - Bryanston, Bryanston and Talbot Heath. Art - Tudor Hall.

HEADMASTER'S PHILOSOPHY: Hanford allows children to be children in the context of the natural life and play of a child, while providing the opportunity to excel in any sphere. Hanford sows, nurtures and encourages the seeds of achievement and independence in all girls.

OUTSTANDING CHARACTERISTICS: Hanford is a glorious mellow Jacobean house deep in the Dorset countryside. This is a school of high spirits, mutual support, clubs and committees, ponies and riding before breakfast, home grown food and flowers. In a world which expects conformity, Hanford encourages individuality and imagination and provides a magical home-from-home environment.