



Schools Development

Proposal

Big idea Create a new umbrella body, with a strong brand, to celebrate, organise and inspire extra-timetable curriculum activities, which involves current students, staff and alumnae.

	What?	Why?
Idea	Establish 'The CCHS Institute – <i>a home for academic engagement, enquiry and enlightenment</i> ', as a new project/entity.	Provide a coherence to existing academic enrichment and extra-curricular activities and a platform/home for new initiatives and projects. Speaks to our grammar school status, i.e. prioritising and prizing academic endeavour.
Nature	Have a regular publication (<i>CCHS Cogitare</i>) to showcase the range of academic endeavours, e.g. print the essays students submit to university and national competitions, commission original pieces of work, have a section for pieces written by the alumnae, staff etc. Have regular TED talk/teachmeet style (lunchtime) presentations and evening lectures (see coherence below).	Create an outlet and home for academic work beyond the timetable. Create a bridge between the School and the alumnae. Create a medium to showcase the quality of our staff. Supports our commitment to excellence in girls' education and empowerment.
Brand	Have logo, stationery, website pages, etc. in the service of creating a brand.	Have a distinct, bold brand – a statement and actions re: academic work and ambition. Links to our growing school, i.e. dynamic, pioneering, etc.
Coherence	a) Bring the CCHS Lecture Series, student societies/clubs, etc. under the umbrella of this new enterprise.	Provide a stronger brand (<i>the scholarly school</i>) for such work and allow us to link this to, and inspire, new initiatives and activities.
Innovation	Create new opportunities/platforms for students and staff to pursue and share their academic interests. We could set essays/projects for students and award prizes/titles, e.g. CCHS scholar.	Strengthen an existing sense of 'academic community and innovation.' Open up another mean to recognise academic excellence across a variety of fields and interests.

Contributors	Have existing students, alumnae, as well as members of staff. Given the diversity of our student population, encourage a range of contributions. Could we also bring in an element that links to our work with primary schools and our FAPP project?	Create a new narrative about the School's academic provision and energy. Speaks to our outward-looking, internationalist/inclusive approach. Could support our staff recruitment work, i.e. a distinct advantage provided by us vis-à-vis academic prowess and opportunity.
Patrons	Build a board of patrons, which should include existing students and staff (and governors?), the alumnae and invited university academics. Invite a member of the Royal family (Duchess of Cambridge or Countess of Wessex) to be a lead patron.	Create and maintain an organisational structure to ensure direction, rigour, ambition and a sense of prestige.
Sponsorship	Seek sponsorship (corporate or academia) to finance lecture events and high-quality publication of work, etc. Could we approach known financially healthy alumnae?	Ensure professional and impressive final product/outcomes. If we could secure financial sponsorship, we could pay academics in residence, as the LAE does?
Involvement	Ensure that students from across different year groups are involved with the project, as well as those at university and the alumnae.	Support a broader community of scholastic enthusiasm, endeavour and excellence (able girls/accomplished women).

SLA, October 2019

Updated, March 2021