

A LANDMARK YEAR FOR FRAMWELLGATE SCHOOL DURHAM

150 YEARS. A NEW SCHOOL. A BOLD FUTURE.

In 2027, we will celebrate 150 years of education in Framwellgate Moor and open the doors to a remarkable new chapter.

1877

First Board School

B

A-Level average grade 2026

100%

A-Level/L3 pass rate 2026

2027

New school opens

A MESSAGE FROM THE TRUST

This is the first of a new termly series of updates from The Excel Academy Partnership, the Trust responsible for leading and supporting Framwellgate School Durham. We want to share more of the work taking place in our Trust, celebrate the people who make our school special and keep our community close to the decisions and developments shaping our future.

A COMMUNITY SCHOOL, IN EVERY SENSE

Fram is a school with unusually deep roots. Generations of families have learned here and many parents and carers, grandparents, aunts and uncles are former students. Our ambition is not simply to create a better school building, but to strengthen a place where young people are known, valued and encouraged to aim high - and where families and the wider community feel they belong too.

RESULTS WORTH CELEBRATING

Summer 2026 brought the strongest A-Level results in the school's recent history. The average grade was B - reported by the school as joint top in County Durham - with a 100% overall pass rate and 22% of students achieving all A*-A grades. At GCSE, students achieved the school's best overall results since the pandemic, with a significant rise in grades 7-9. These outcomes widen choice and opportunity for young people at every next step.

THE BOARD: PRESENT, VISIBLE, ENGAGED

Directors are keen to be more visible in the life of the school - attending events, meeting staff and students, and seeing first-hand the work that sits behind reports and data. Governance is strongest when it understands the lived experience of the school. We also thank our Local Governing Board for its dedicated work supporting and challenging the school, keeping governance rooted in our community. **This term, our message is simple – thank you for the support from our staff and our families. The next eighteen months will bring excitement and fantastic opportunities for everyone.**

OUR SHARED VALUES

- Excellence
- The most for those that need the most
- Known and valued
- Collective endeavour
- Joy

“A school is a community. The building matters, but it is the people within it who make it what it is.”

FRAM 150 - CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY. BUILDING OUR FUTURE

The timing of the opening of the new school build aligns with 150 years of education in Framwellgate Moor.

1877

The first Board School opened in Framwellgate Moor.

1964

Infant, junior and secondary education moved to the current site.

2027

A new school build opens

A celebration event will give our school community the opportunity to mark the opening and honour the generations who have made Framwellgate what it is.

ALUMNI 150

Several members of the Trust Board are alumni, bringing a powerful connection between the school's past and future. We want many more former students to reconnect, to share their stories, careers and experience, and to show today's students the extraordinary range of futures that can begin at Framwellgate School Durham. [Alumni 150 | Framwellgate School Durham](#)

Thank you for reading our first parent, carer and community edition and thank you for the support you bring to our school and its community.

Stephen Hall
Chair of Directors

Wendy Pattison
Chief Operating Officer

FRAM 27 – BUILDING THE NEXT CHAPTER

THE NEW FRAMWELLGATE SCHOOL DURHAM - A BUILDING TO MATCH OUR AMBITION

The new school build remains on track to open in September 2027, and it is now possible to see the next chapter taking physical shape. The steel frame has transformed the site and the brickwork is progressing. We are grateful to BAM and everyone involved in delivering a complex project while school life continues alongside it.

DESIGNED FOR YOUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE

This will be a state-of-the-art learning environment designed to achieve Net Zero Carbon in operation. Its design places learning and aspiration at the centre: a prominent library near the entrance, a Sixth Form and Inclusion Base at the heart of the school, and specialist spaces for PE, art, music, drama, science and technology. The intention is clear - a modern, sustainable school that feels ambitious, inclusive and full of possibility.

OUR PURPOSE - AMBITION WITH BELONGING

A school where young people are known and valued, experience success, discover their passions and leave with the knowledge, confidence and choices to shape their future.

A SPRINGBOARD FOR OUR NEXT GENERATION

The new school gives us an opportunity to think beyond bricks and mortar. Alongside the building programme, the Trust has refreshed its governance and is looking carefully at how we build on Fram's strengths for the next chapter. We see 2027 as a genuine springboard - an opportunity to refresh, refocus and raise our ambition, while holding firmly to the values and relationships that make our school special. A remarkable new building deserves an equally ambitious organisation within it, and our work now is about ensuring that both are ready for the future.

LOOKING AHEAD TOGETHER

We will now communicate with parents, carers, staff and our wider community through a Trust newsletter once each term. Alongside the Headteacher's regular updates, this will give us space to share the bigger picture: progress on the new build, student achievement, community partnerships, alumni stories and the work of the Trust Board.

We hope you will be part of Fram 150 and the opening celebrations in 2027. If you are a former student, have memories or photographs to share, or would like to contribute your career story to inspire young people, we would be delighted to hear from you through the school.

SEPTEMBER 2027

Opening target

NET ZERO

Carbon in operation - design ambition

THANK YOU BAM

For the pace, care and professionalism visible on site.



MORE THAN A SCHOOL

At the heart of the community

The new building gives us an opportunity to expand what Framwellgate School Durham already does well. Our sports pitches and the Sjovoll Centre already connect the school with the wider community. We want the next phase to open our doors further - creating more opportunities for learning, sport, events, partnerships and community use.

NEXT EDITION

Spring 2027

- New build progress
- Fram 150
- Staff and student success
- Alumni
- Trust Board updates