

FRANKLIN HOUSE

Franklin house is named after the eminent scientist Rosalind Franklin who was a chemist who specialised in X-ray crystallography; her work aided the discovery of the structure of DNA.

During the 1940s and 50s Franklin was one of only a few women working in Science laboratories at Cambridge University and at this time the study of the Sciences was regarded as a male pursuit. Despite the hostility and sexual discrimination Franklin continued to collect data and analyse its resulting in the astonishing breakthrough of DNA's structure.

“Science, for me, gives a partial explanation for life. In so far as it goes, it is based on fact, experience and experiment.”

- Rosalind Franklin

Franklin is considered to be a champion of female scientists and always stood her ground when discussing her findings and in challenging developmental concepts in particular relating to the structure of DNA.

Crick, Watson and Wilkins were awarded the Noble prize awarded for the discovery of the structure of DNA in 1962. Sadly Franklin died of ovarian cancer in 1958 before she could be awarded the Noble prize and unfortunately the Noble prize can't be awarded posthumously.

Franklin exhibited many qualities that are relevant to our House such as resilience, competitiveness and perseverance in the face of adversity. She was conscientious, meticulous, steadfast and staunch. Franklin stood up for what she believed in and was an uncompromising individual when it came to her scientific work. These are all qualities that our students should aspire to have by the time they leave us.