

THE CAMDEN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS





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HEAD GIRL TEAM 2023



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WELCOME

TO CAMDEN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

A warm welcome to Camden School for Girls. Camden School for Girls is a comprehensive school that provides an excellent education for all its students. We are determined to make learning enjoyable, interesting and stimulating so that all our students are able to reach their full potential. As a parent or carer, you will be keen to discover what makes this school unique, and how we will care for your child as they grow towards adulthood. This booklet will give you that information, and you will also gain a clear understanding of how the school works from our website, from visiting the school and from speaking to students and teachers.

“The quality of teaching and the atmosphere of enthusiasm around learning are superb”

PARENT SURVEY 2023

“Teachers go above and beyond with working outside of the classroom in evenings and holidays”

PARENT SURVEY 2023

Our school motto, dating from the school's foundation in 1871, is 'Onwards and Upwards'. This captures the sense of optimism and determination to succeed that permeates the school. We aim to develop resilience in our students, and the ability to be tenacious in their quest to be the best that they can be in all aspects of their lives.

We are ambitious for every young person in our school, and our commitment to their success is combined with very strong pastoral work to make sure that students feel happy, safe and supported at all times. We enable our students to find their own voices and develop their own opinions by encouraging a broad understanding of the world, a social conscience and a considerate approach to other people. Every student is valued, and we encourage all students to value other people as well. Our aim is to nurture caring, confident, responsible and mature young adults who are ready to go on to the next stage of their education.

I do hope you and your child enjoy getting to know the school and take away a strong sense of how Camden School for Girls provides an outstanding education. I am very much looking forward to meeting you and welcoming you to our warm and welcoming school community.



Kateryna Law
Headteacher



OUR VISION, AIMS AND VALUES

The Camden School for Girls was founded in 1871 by Frances Mary Buss, one of the great pioneers of women's education. The main school admits girls and has a comprehensive intake. At sixth form level the school has specific GCSE grade requirements and it also admits boys. The school aims to create a social and physical environment which combines security and care with challenge, stimulus and the highest expectations, where staff and students work together with the understanding and support of parents and carers.

Our vision for the future is to sustain and to promote the school's ethos, heritage and philosophy within the contexts of public policy, social trends and educational need, ensuring that it can adapt to and meet future challenges.



The aims and values of the school are:

- to maintain and develop the school's tradition of providing the highest quality of education
- to offer equality of opportunity and care to all students whatever their race, gender, class, creed or special needs.
- to be a positive presence within the wider community and to promote a sense of environmental and social responsibility
- to foster a supportive environment where staff and students are valued, motivated and fulfilled

We encourage all students to:

- develop their individual talents to the full
- have confidence in themselves and a sense of self-worth
- work co-operatively with others
- develop independence of thought
- value education and enjoy learning
- practise tolerance and open mindedness
- show consideration for others and respect their diverse qualities and needs

I hope you will recognise our commitment to our vision, aims and values as you visit the school and explore more information about it on our website.



"The school maintains its embedded roots and traditions whilst providing the students with an outstanding quality of education, ensuring they are ready to make their mark in the 21st century world in which they live"

CAMDEN LEARNING

"The sense of the school history with the exhibitions in the foyer are lovely - have helped my GCSE child with her sense of pride in the school"

PARENT SURVEY 2023

"The library and librarian are amazing"

PARENT SURVEY 2023



“Excellent access to extra-curricular activities, to speakers and subjects beyond the curriculum”

PARENT SURVEY 2023



A BROAD CURRICULUM & INSPIRATIONAL TEACHING

The school offers a broad and balanced curriculum which has a distinctive character derived from the strengths and traditions of the school. The school has been praised for the moral, spiritual, cultural and social development of its students through the full range of subject teaching, pastoral guidance and the variety of extra-curricular activities on offer. Our teachers are well-qualified specialists who combine excellent subject knowledge with the ability to make learning interesting, challenging and enjoyable.

KEY STAGE 3 Years 7, 8 and 9

The four classes in each year form teaching groups for some subjects. Smaller groups are created for the teaching of practical subjects. Students who struggle with their learning are given additional assistance by our Learning Support department.

Subjects taught:

KEY STAGE THREE – English and Drama, Mathematics, Science, Geography, History, French or Spanish, Theology and Philosophy, Art, Music, Design Technology (Food Technology, Product Design and Textiles), Computing, Physical Education and Personal, Social, Health and Economic education.

Camden School for Girls is one of the few remaining state schools to offer the full range of classical subjects; Classical Civilization, Latin and Ancient Greek. In Year 8, all students study Classics and at the end of Year 8 students are offered the choice for Year 9 of studying Latin or continuing study of Classical Civilization. Decisions are made between students, parents and staff.



KEY STAGE 4 Years 10 and 11

In Years 10 and 11 students follow a rich programme of core and optional subjects.

Core subjects:

We are delighted to be offering a broad range of subjects to study at GCSE. As part of our core offer, which includes English Literature and English Language, Mathematics, Science, Theology and Philosophy, Physical Education, French or Spanish and Personal, Health, Social and Economic education.

In the Spring Term Year 9 students are offered 3 choices of GCSE and Vocational courses. Options offered for 2023/2024:

- Latin
- Classical Civilisation
- Ancient Greek
- Art
- Music
- Triple Science
- Further Mathematics
- Computer Science
- Health and Social Care
- Design Technology - Textiles
- Design Technology - Resistant Materials
- Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy
- Geography
- History
- Sociology
- Physical Education

In addition Ancient Greek and Further Mathematics GCSEs are currently offered either before or after school and can therefore be studied in addition to the three optional subjects.





DEVELOPING THE INDIVIDUAL

“Diversity and good environment for learning”

PARENT SURVEY 2023

We have a dedicated and experienced pastoral care team with a Head of Year and Assistant Head of Year managing a team of four Form Tutors who have daily contact with students. They monitor the mental health, wellbeing, attendance, progress and achievement of all students in their group. Whenever possible, students remain with the same Form Tutor and Head of Year throughout

their five years in Camden School for Girls. This system provides stability and establishes trust between home and school, and gives every student a known adult to go to if they need help. Our Head of Years and Learning Mentors are also visible and approachable, as are senior staff. Promoting resilience, good mental health and confidence is key if we want our students to become strong and well rounded individuals.



“I’m very proud when people ask me what school I go to as I’m proud of my title of being a Camden girl”

HEAD PREFECT, MAIN SCHOOL 2023



We pride ourselves on excellent standards of achievement but we also want our students to have the skills and motivation to succeed in all areas in their lives, have high self-esteem and be respectful citizens.

All students follow the school’s Code of Behaviour which revolves around developing the individual’s obligations to the community. There are deliberately few rules and our behaviour code was written in collaboration with the students and is a short series of expectations that promote good behaviour. We foster a calm learning environment where students feel safe and secure.

Our pastoral team is always prepared to do everything possible to ensure that the students make rapid progress socially, emotionally and academically.



“Seems like there’s a lot of work going on in the background and pupils are encouraged to communicate if they need support”

PARENT SURVEY 2023



A STRONG PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS AND CARERS

“My daughter feels secure and happy”

PARENT SURVEY 2023

We value our partnership with parents and carers and are grateful for the contribution they make in supporting the school and their children’s progress. This partnership is at the heart of all we do.

We maintain close and regular contact with parents and carers through the weekly ‘Friday News’, ParentMail, Daily News Sheet called the Banda and the school website. All give up to date information and are on the school’s website (www.camdengirls.camden.sch.uk).

All staff are keen to have close contact with parents and carers so that together we can be consistent in encouraging hard work and promoting good behaviour.

The school provides additional curriculum and pastoral support for students who are eligible for the Pupil Premium. Assistance is provided with the costs of trips and learning materials.



“She is very inspired by her teachers”

PARENT SURVEY 2023

“When my child has had any issues, they have been listened to and taken seriously”

PARENT SURVEY 2023

The Camden School Community Association (CASCA) is also committed to bringing parents, carers and staff together to raise money and support the school. It provides opportunities for everyone to work together in organizing a range of community events. From the enormous Jumble Sale to the popular Quiz Night and Summer Fest, CASCA creates regular opportunities for the whole school community to come together.

CASCA support has enabled the school to move forward with a range of initiatives, from raising money for the introduction of Duke of Edinburgh Scheme, new books for the library, school planting initiatives, running the Model UN, improving the staffroom and a wealth of learning resources.



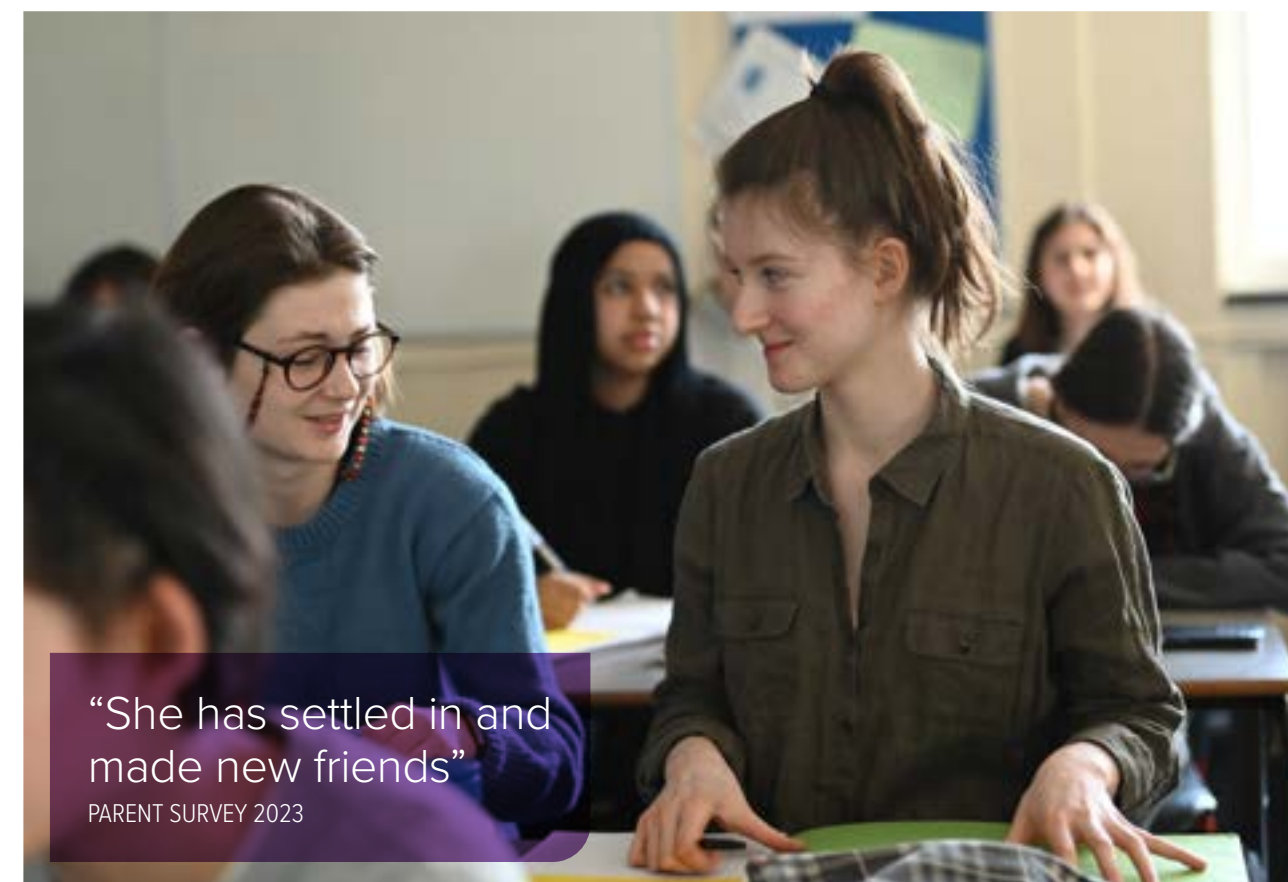


WE LISTEN TO STUDENTS



“Excellent teaching
and overall concern
about child”

PARENT SURVEY 2023



“She has settled in and
made new friends”

PARENT SURVEY 2023

Camden School for Girls is democratic and energetic, and our students have a true sense of ownership, responsibility and care towards each other and the school. Student leadership opportunities are abundant and we encourage our students to take an active role in their school community.

Our School Council is an elected body of students from across all year groups, led by the Head Prefect and their deputies. Together they meet and organize events such as Pink Day (breast cancer awareness), International Women's Day, Black History month, Mental Health Awareness week, Culture Day and raise a significant amount of money for other charities. In addition, the School Council regularly invites visitors into school to talk to students about their lives and work.

School Council meetings provide a forum where students can also discuss and propose resolutions about issues which are important to them. Through the School Council we encourage an interest in politics and the world around us.

“The school has an
inclusive nature and
opportunities for students
to express themselves”

PARENT SURVEY 2023

“As you step into the
school it is evident that
the staff provide a safe
secure environment
where all feel valued,
confident and cared for”

CAMDEN LEARNING



OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM



We believe that students learn as much outside the classroom as in it. We offer a wide variety of extra-curricular activities to all students at lunchtime and after school. We are very proud of our strong musical tradition and we have received the London Music Award in recognition of our excellent provision. Our music offer includes a full symphony orchestra, a big band, two jazz bands, a string group, a woodwind group plus several choirs and vocal groups. Other activities include debating, raising environmental awareness, Feminist Club as well as philosophy, Latin language, computing, design technology, art and gardening clubs. Students have access to computers in the library and to other facilities outside school hours for homework and to enable them to pursue their interests. The school schedules a rich variety of music and drama performances every year. Past productions include *Godspell*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Matilda*, *Grease*, *Candide*, *Romeo & Juliet* and *Medea*.

Our PE department offers a large selection of activities including trampolining, football, netball, basketball, volleyball, badminton athletics and dance. The department has strong links with the Highgate Harriers

and Arsenal Football Club and school teams participate in a wide range of borough and London based competitions.

In addition we offer a number of school trips to inspire students and support the curriculum. Day trips include visits to the Crick Institute, Imperial War Museum, Tate Modern, the Tower of London, Neasden Temple, The Jewish Museum London, the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Science Museum. A programme of residential school journeys is organised annually including the Language Department trips to Madrid and Paris, the Geography field trip to Wales and the PE department outward bound trip to Devon.

“musical activities and events are always really good. The trips have been great, good to see the kids being taken further afield.”

PARENT SURVEY



A STIMULATING & WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT



“Very welcoming
environment”

PARENT SURVEY 2023

“How uplifting and
positive the environment
is at school”

PARENT SURVEY 2023



The school has some beautiful Edwardian buildings, including the distinctive Bell Tower at the top of the oldest block on the site. A World War Two bomb demolished a large section of this building and it was replaced by the 1950s accommodation that houses many of our current, excellent facilities, including a spacious and well-lit art studio, a photography studio and a stunning, well-stocked library that is beautifully maintained by our full-time school librarian.

Our music facilities are outstanding, and include a generous performance space as well as smaller rooms specifically designed for individual music tuition. The design technology workshops provide our students with excellent opportunities to design and make in product design, textiles and food.

Many of our classrooms provide generous, comfortable spaces for learning, and we are particularly delighted that our 1960s science laboratories have been extensively refurbished, so that students are now enjoying bright, modern, well-equipped spaces in which to learn.



We have a quiet and welcoming space in which students who require learning support have individual or small group tuition. We have extended the dining hall and foyer areas and added some much needed larger classrooms and private study space into the sixth form block.

There are very welcoming open spaces around the school and our own gymnasium and games court. We also make use of local sports facilities in order to extend the curriculum. All our visitors notice the exceptionally high quality of the student art work around the school, a feature of which we are especially proud.

BEYOND THE SCHOOL GATE



At Camden School for Girls we aim to raise the aspirations of our students and encourage them to consider a wide range of careers. We want to make sure our students leave the school as independent individuals, ready to take their place in the world. Our careers education is combined with guidance and advice to ensure that all of our students develop the knowledge and skills that they need to make successful choices, manage transitions in learning and move successfully into the world of work. We aim to challenge stereotypes and broaden our students' horizons about the various career opportunities and pathways that are available to them and learn about skills that are valued in the world of work. Students receive independent careers information, advice and guidance and are encouraged to pursue pathways that best suit their talents, interests and expected level of qualification.

Years 7-11 careers information is delivered through the PSHE curriculum. All Year 9 students will have a 1-1 careers interview which supports them in making informed decisions. All Year 10 students complete work experience in July which offers them an insight into future careers and enables them to know what options are available to them within their local communities. Year 11 students receive 1:1 independent careers advice and the school hosts a conference to offer additional guidance on post 16 options.

Students have chosen careers in a wide range of fields including fine dining, medicine, product design, journalism, visual communication, creative media, law and international development.

“Revision clubs for GCSE exams have been a lifeline”

PARENT SURVEY 2023



“General ethos, sense of intellectual and creative enquiry about the school is superb, with clubs, guest speakers, sixth-form masterclasses, UN Club, music, dance, art in the first-floor corridor... so many innovations that make a difference - thank you”

PARENT SURVEY 2023



“Many different clubs, library and child’s engagement in various entertainment projects...fantastic results of achievements and child’s personal development”

PARENT SURVEY 2023

“Thank you to Francis Mary Buss, a “universal mother”, who, after 152 years of establishing CSG as an institution, continues to tend to the needs of her students, breaking off a piece of her fighting spirit for every person who walks through our gates...”

SIXTH FORM HEAD PREFECT 2023



NEW HORIZONS

At the end of her time in the main school, your daughter may wish to attend our excellent sixth form. We offer a wealth of different A level subjects and we have an outstanding record of successful entry among our students to Russell Group universities, medical school, Cambridge and Oxford, dentistry, veterinary science degrees and Art Colleges. The Sixth Form has its own learning and relaxation space, but sixth formers mix freely with younger students and this is very much one single school.

Some of our students choose to pursue more vocational courses and this area is well served with Further Education colleges. Opportunities are explored thoroughly with students as they make their way through the main school and prepare for their education post-16 and beyond. The school provides exceptional careers and course advice, and supports individual students through each transition, from Key Stage Three to GCSE, and from GCSE to A Level and other post-16 provision.

We have a rich and extensive network of past students who remain in touch with the school and support it in many ways.

“As this chapter of my life closes, I will take on the next uncertainties and challenges of the future with optimism and strength, keeping strong in the virtues that I’ve been taught along the years and are now a part of me. Because in all honesty a piece of me will always belong in Camden...and I will most definitely only be moving onwards and upwards from here”

SIXTH FORM HEAD PREFECT 2023



September 2023



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