CHOOSE



## **BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**

BRENTFORD & FORM



Ofsted has recognised the excellent achievement of pupils and that 'the schools ethos that 'every child counts' permeates through the life of the school.



from the Head

OUR VISION AT BRENTFORD SCHOOL IS TO NURTURE INCREDIBLE AND ASPIRATIONAL YOUNG WOMEN OF THE FUTURE.

Welcome to our thriving and successful school. We pride ourselves on providing our girls and young women with an excellent quality of education, as well as the opportunity to develop the broader skills required to be successful in a dynamic and changing world.

Brentford School for Girls is one of the most successful state schools in England. The Department for Education placed us in the 'Top 100 non selective state schools' in England for the progress our students make. We received the High Aspiration Pupil Premium Award in 2015 and joined the prestigious 'London Schools Gold Club', an accolade presented to the most successful London state schools.

The school's ethos that 'every child counts' permeates the life of the school' (Ofsted 2019). Ofsted identified the academic achievement of students at Brentford School as a clear strength, as well as the behaviour and attitudes of the students, strong leadership and highly skilled teachers.

At the heart of our vibrant school is a very strong community. Our parents continue to be involved in their daughters' education and we work hard to ensure that the triangle of support, your daughter, staff and parents sit at the very centre of what we do. Our girls are happy, engaged and want to be at Brentford School.

We encourage our girls to think big, be ambitious and have high expectations of themselves. Our vision is to develop our girls into young women who are ready to embrace the challenges of life and work in the future, whatever they may be.

Our prospectus provides a glimpse into your child's future and a snapshot of what we can offer you and your daughter.

Marais Leenders - Head Teacher



#### IMAGINE THE FUTURE BRENTFORD GIRL...

She thrives on challenge and has a desire to fulfil her learning potential.

She is able to think independently and is confident in her social and academic capability.

She is emotionally aware and emotionally intelligent

She is capable and dependable.

She is resourceful and inquisitive.

She embraces the technological world as a global village and is ready to interact with others in the local and worldwide community.

She accepts the welfare of others as her responsibility

She understands the need for sustainable living both locally and globally.

#### SHE IS READY FOR LIFE IN THE FUTURE - WHATEVER THAT MAY BE

She is the centre of our vision and will remain the very core of our being and purpose.



A community of

# CHOOSING A GIRLS' SCHOOL

HIGH ACHIEVERS

GIRLS' SCHOOLS ARE
ENVIRONMENTS WHERE
GIRLS ARE THE ABSOLUTE
ENTRE OF THE SCHOOLS FOCUS

to prepare them for lives full of confidence, commitment, contribution, and fulfilment. National performance data relating to schools consistently places girls' schools amongst the highest achieving schools in the country.

Students are also more likely to study traditionally male-dominated subjects including maths and science. "An all-girl environment allows them to escape gender stereotyping by, for example, encouraging more girls to pursue science subjects." Caroline Jordan, President of The Girls' School Association

An all-girls' learning environment fosters excellent mentoring opportunities. Students feel supported by a community of dedicated teachers and their peers.

The overwhelming majority of girls' school students strongly agree that they feel supported at their schools: 90% report feeling supported by other students (compared to 73% of girls at coed schools). Dr. Richard A. Holmgren, Alle-

gheny College, Steeped in Learning: The Student Experience at All-Girls Schools.

Brentford School for Girls ranked in the top 100 schools for the progress our girls make. Our examination results at GCSE place us consistently in the top 10% of schools nationally.

At Brentford School learning is uniquely tailored to our girls' individual needs and students from all academic abilities achieve incredibly well.



A school with a highly

# ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

ASPIRATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

EVERY GIRL AT
BRENTFORD SCHOOL
IS ENCOURAGED TO GO
BEYOND HER PERSONAL BEST.

Our examination results at GCSE and A Level are outstanding. The majority of our students continue into our 6th Form Centre before moving on to university, apprenticeships or employment. When students join us in Year 7, they are encouraged to be ambitious and to consider their future. We provide a strong programme of careers support and guidance through the curriculum and enrichment activities, organised to encourage your daughter to think about her personal journey and future university and explore career interests.

Challenging our most able students both academically and through extra-curricular activities is important to us. There are many opportunities within the curriculum to accelerate students' progress where we feel that they have the ability to do so.

Our learning values underpin our strong pupil centric vision. So intrinsic are these values to our overall school ethos, we have focussed our

school 'House System' on them:

Ambitious \* Confident \* Flexible \* Inquisitive \* Reflective

When your daughter comes to Brentford School for Girls she will be placed in one of the above 5 houses. The school uses the 'House System' to promote healthy competition and a sense of responsibility and community amongst our girls. Students work alongside other students in different year groups towards achieving the prestigious house cup.



## **GREATER OPPORTUNITIES**

## A VARIED CURRICULUM

IN SINGLE SEX SCHOOLS,
GIRLS ARE ABLE TO ESCAPE
GENDER STEREOTYPING AND ENJOY A WIDE
RANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES. Subjects such
as sports, geography, maths, science and
technology are extremely popular among
our students, as are the arts.

Our curriculum is varied and inspiring and we are constantly looking for ways to ensure that it is the right provision for your daughter.

The arts are a strong and vibrant feature at Brentford and students can study art, textiles, drama, music, photography and film studies throughout the school. Students exhibit their work in school, locally and nationally.

At Brentford we are committed to the arts. We also have a dedicated annual 'Art Exhibition' to celebrate and showcase our students incredible work from throughout the year.

Our show stopping school production is also highly regarded and much anticipated by everyone from within the local community.

In Year 7 and 8, students study a broad and balanced range of subjects including English,

mathematics, science, humanities, art, drama, music, design technology, ICT, PSHCE and PE, as well as a dedicated reading lesson. In Year 9, our girls will have selected their GCSE preferences and begin to study GCSE content.

The school has a designated member of staff to lead on developing students' literacy skills across the school. Opportunities are also taken to promote numeracy throughout the curriculum. Good



reading, writing, speaking, listening and numerical skills will help your daughter's achievement in all areas, as well as increasing confidence and self-esteem.

Excellent literacy can open doors to other subjects and forms the backbone of student learning. Students have specific reading lessons once a week.

In Key Stage 4, your daughter will continue to pursue an individualised curriculum pathway based around her option choices. This might be an academic English Baccalaureate or a more vocational course, depending upon her preferences and aspirations.

All students take the core subjects of English, mathematics and science, irrespective of their other choices because we know how important they are to the chances of progression post-16 and beyond.

Girls at single-sex schools are more likely to take advanced STEM subjects. Girls at single-sex schools were 85% more likely to take advanced mathematics than girls in co-ed schools, 79% more likely to study chemistry, 68% more likely to take intermediate mathematics, and 47% more likely to study physics.' The Alliance of Girls' Schools Australasia.





## **INVEST IN THE BEST**

# HIGHLY QUALIFIED STAFF & EXCELLENT FACILITIES

## HIGH QUALITY STAFF WITH SIGNIFICANT EXPERIFNCF KNOW HOW GIRLS I FARN

and provide an environment where students can really flourish in their learning. They are free from social distractions and comfortable to display their intelligence and curiosity.

Our teaching team includes graduates from Oxford and Cambridge and other top universities, teachers with over 20 years' experience, as well as newer teachers who bring with them the latest ideas in education. All staff benefit from extensive continuing professional development to innovate and inspire so education becomes an exciting and engaging journey leading to outstanding success for our students.

We run a regular refurbishment programme across the school. Each of our classrooms has the most up-to-date ICT equipment and we have several stand-alone ICT suites.

The school has a state-of-the-art, industry specification theatre where students are encouraged to develop their communication skills and become involved in public speaking, debating competitions and the annual school play, as well as learning about 'backstage' and managing events.

We have a modern and well-equipped library, open to students before and after school and during the school day.

In July 2019, our outdoor, on-site sporting facilities were transformed with a new, impressive and highly enviable all-weather Astro turf sports pitch.

In the summer of 2022, buildings arund the school have been redecorated to give a up-to-date environment for students.



The confidence to

# CHALLENGE & BE CHALLENGED

We offer a variety of sports across the school, including athletics, tennis, netball, football, rugby, dance, hockey, yoga and rowing.

We encourage all our girls to participate to the best of their ability. Brentford girls are regularly amongst the highest achieving sports women within the borough, with some of our students going on to play sport at national level.

We take part in many sports competitions within school and against other schools. We also have strong links with high profile Harlequins Rugby players, Sky Sports and have had Olympic athletes visit our school.

In partnership with Brentford FC and Harlequins Rugby, we run resilience programmes to promote good mental health and value the positive impact sport has on our students overall well-being.







Passionate about

## INSPIRING YOUNG WOMEN AND GIRLS

## LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

GIRLS ARE TAUGHT AND STRIVE TO BECOME STRONG FEMALE LEADERS AT BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS. There are so many leadership opportunities.

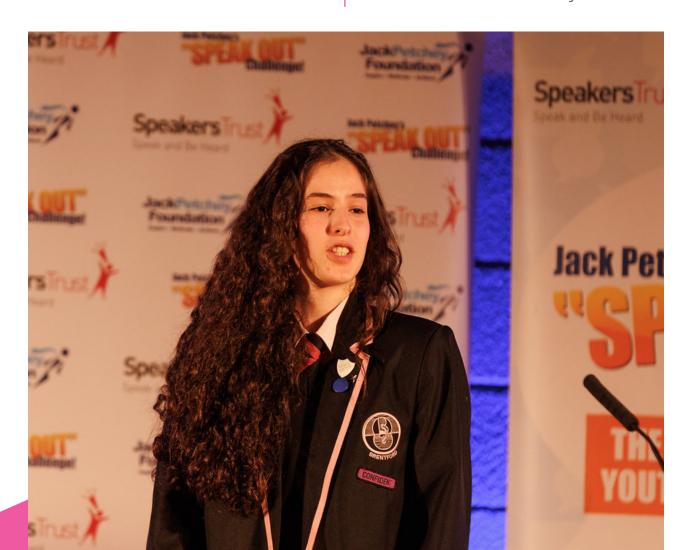
Students can be involved in the school and year councils, take on the responsibility of key leadership roles such as prefects, HUB ambassadors, house captains as well as participate in the hugely successful 'debate mate', the schools debating society.

The school works closely with the British Council and students have demonstrated their leadership qualities both in school, nationally and globally, by participating in various conferences and projects related to gender and the international dimension

Building leadership skills and providing our girls with strong female role models, be these ex-students, older girls, teachers or girls within the peer group, is an important vehicle for inspiring young women and girls.

International Women's Day is a focus for us each year and we celebrate by inviting speakers to present at assemblies and also encourage our own students to share their stories. Seeking out the highest standards of education and encouraging our girls to be inquisitive and 'think' and 'ask questions' continually is a critical part of what will help to develop their independence and leadership qualities. Students are encouraged to actively have a voice.

Our girls regularly participate in national debating competitions, securing a place in the top 20% of schools across the country.



We are a community that remains

### **CONNECTED**

COMMUNITY, BUSINESS & UNIVERSITY

AS AN OUTWARD-FACING SCHOOL, WE HAVE COMMUNITY LINKS with local primary schools and charities. Our strong business links allow us to provide mentoring and valuable work experience opportunities for our girls.

Brentford School is also the proud recipient of the highest level of the International Schools Award because of our links with schools around the world including Rwanda. India. Sweden and France.

We also have a vibrant and active alumninetwork who support our current students in providing careers advice and employment opportunities.

Flexibility and adaptability are competencies that help ensure success in everything our students do.

In the lives and careers of our girls there will be many demands placed upon them in this fast-changing world. To have a broad skill set, to see the world through others' eyes, to show humility and emotional intelligence and to have the ability to change and grow means out students are ready for life beyond school.

The school has a number of partnerships with universities in London and the UK. All students in Year

9 visit a university as part of their curriculum programme and there are a range of activities in Years 10 and 11, including university summer schools, which girls can choose to be involved in.

Our careers support from an early age is exceptional and Brentford School has achieved the Careers Quality Standard, a standard that only 10% of schools achieve nationally.



 Taking learning

## BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

OUR EXTENSIVE RANGE OF EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES ENGAGE STUDENTS WELL BEYOND THE CLASSROOM. These include arts and crafts clubs, music, drama and dance, sports clubs, film-making, debating, gardening, science, languages, mathematics and ICT, to name but a few. Trips and visits, including museum visits, residentials and foreign excursions are also an important part of wider school life.

Our girls have the opportunity to participate in a vast array of enrichment activities including visiting art museums, specialist exhibitions, team building activities, water-sports and international trips. Recent trips include, New York, Italy, France, Austria, Germany.

World Book Day celebrations are full of imagination and creativity and we encourage our girls to celebrate authors, illustrators, books and most importantly reading.

Our annual sports day is fantastic fun for everyone. Sport is an important part of the curriculum at Brentford School for Girls in building character, resilience, perseverance, confidence and teamwork and helps our girls to maintain energy and strength and improve mental sharpness and stamina.

Volunteering and charity work gives students the practical skills which they need to start making active change. Our girls are actively encouraged to drive enterprise projects to support different charities in the community.



















## **SMOOTHING THE WAY**

SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION TO YEAR 7

"BRENTFORD SCHOOL
FOR GIRLS HAS SUCH A
WELCOMING ATMOSPHERE.
EVERYONE IS OPEN AND FRIENDLY, I FELT AT
HOME IMMEDIATELY "
SIENNA, YEAR 8

"I FEEL SAFE AND HAPPY HERE AND I HAVE BEEN GIVEN LOTS OF TIME TO EXPRESS MY-SELF. I HAVE MADE LOTS OF NEW FRIENDS WHO ARE KIND AND SUPPORTIVE" RYMA YEAR 7

"STUDENTS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO THRIVE AND REACH THEIR FULLEST PO-TENTIAL. STAFF SUPPORT AND ENABLE STUDENTS TO INTERACT WITH DIFFERENT STUDENTS AND YEAR GROUPS TO SETTLE IN ZAHRA YEAR R It is incredibly important to us that Year 7 students make a smooth transition into secondary education from their primary schools. Helping this to happen successfully is something we pride ourselves on.

We work with a number of local primary schools from Year 5, familiarising students about life at secondary school before they make their choices in Year 6. All prospective students are involved in a variety of activities in the summer term before joining the school, including subject specific and cross curricular induction workshops, a dedicated transition day, team building and bonding activities. The school has channelled years of experience into creating a comprehensive transition guide and has a dedicated transition website where you can also find answers to your questions before your daughter starts with us in September.



# BRENTFOR

## **SAFE & SUPPORTED**

#### OUTSTANDING Pastoral Care

THE PASTORAL CARE AT BRENTFORD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS IS OUTSTANDING. The school structure, pastoral programme, BLOSSOM (PSHCE) curriculum, well-being weeks, pastoral and Helping Undo Barriers (HUB) teams support the emotional development of all of our girls.

Students receive a daily tutor time lesson, which focusses on developing relationships with their peers and tutors. Within this programme, 'well-being weeks' run once per half term which focus on a different 'physical/mental health topic'.

This includes an assembly to raise awareness, activities within tutor time and a more indepth focus within the BLOSSOM curriculum.

Students who may need a little more support maybe considered for specific interventions through our specialist 'HUB' team. Students with both medical and special educational needs will be allocated a key worker who will offer support to remove any barriers to learn-

ing. At Brentford we pride ourselves on ensuring that 'every student counts' and can really fulfil their full potential.

"'Pupils across the school unanimously told inspectors that they felt safe and supported by school staff. They know who to turn to should they have a problem and feel confident that any concerns will be dealt with quickly." BSFG Latest OFSTED



## DISCOVER MORE FOLLOW US ON

about Brentford school for Girls







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**APPLICATIONS & SCHOOL VISITS** 

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**HOW TO FIND US** 

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Buses: H91, E2, E8, 65, 235, 237, 267, 195

