



Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School

Achieving our potential and enjoying the journey



"This is an Outstanding School"
Ofsted 2016

PROSPECTUS

Respect • Honesty • Ambition • Teamwork • Kindness • Trust



“ High aspiration has become central and the school’s strapline of ‘achieving our potential and enjoying the journey’ has been brought to life’ ”

Ofsted 2016

Welcome

Bishop’s Hatfield Girls’ School is a high-achieving academy with a distinctive ethos, enabling girls to succeed in and enjoy their learning. I am incredibly proud of our pupils and their achievements which continue to improve year on year.

Visitors frequently tell me that their first impression of the school is of a friendly, lively and stimulating community where we emphasise the importance of the individual’s contribution and take pleasure in sharing and celebrating achievement. They commend the good behaviour of the girls and their thirst for knowledge.

Bishop’s girls benefit from expert teaching and whilst our academic results are impressive, we continue to strive for further improvement, setting challenging but achievable targets for all the girls, irrespective of their starting points.

We recognise and praise achievement at all levels of ability believing that girls succeed best when we have made clear our high expectations of them. These reflect our core values:

Ambition – by striving for excellence in their learning and participation

Trust and Teamwork – by working independently and as a member of a team

Respect and Kindness – by displaying considerate and sensitive behaviour towards all

Honesty – by taking pride in their personal integrity and standards
Bishop’s is a community that offers mutual support and encouragement and expects everyone within it to respect others’ cultures, religion and beliefs.

I hope that the values, self-discipline and sense of personal worth that girls gain here will be a support throughout their lives as British and Global Citizens. Please visit us and see for yourselves how our girls learn in a vibrant, supportive environment and why we have such pride in them.

Alf Wood,
Headteacher

Our Vision

Achieving our potential and enjoying the journey through:

Excellent Teaching

- by enthusiastic, inspirational staff
- in stimulating, creative lessons
- with high expectations for ALL

Academic Success

- with outstanding exam results
- by rigorous tracking of progress
- in a supportive learning environment

Personal Development

- valuing happiness and mutual respect
- in extensive extra-curricular activities
- preparing for the challenges ahead

Strong Leadership

- promoting high standards of behaviour
- ensuring efficient, effective use of resources
- engaging the whole school community and beyond



“ Bishop’s not only aims to achieve academic excellence from its students, but also provides an environment in which they can develop their social skills to become accomplished individuals. ”

Year 9 Parent

Respect • Honesty • Ambition • Teamwork • Kindness • Trust

Excellent Teaching

At Bishop's Hatfield, we believe that our safe and secure environment will provide the foundation for your daughter to produce her best work. Our excellent teaching and support staff will ensure that every pupil will feel valued from their first day.

Bishop's offers a broad, balanced and stimulating curriculum across a wide range of subjects imparted with a diverse selection of teaching methods.

Activities extend outside the normal academic framework, taking the forms of debates, role plays and make the best use of our incredible variety of electronic resources. Trips to theatres, museums, art galleries, and places of historical, technological or scientific significance all play a key role in the curriculum.

Most importantly, your daughter will be treated as an individual in order to help her explore her potential.

“ The climate for learning in the school is exceptionally positive. Excellent and caring staff bring out the best in pupils. The pupils thrive in a secure and calm environment. ”

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Academic Success

Dedication to our pupils has generated exceptional examination results with our GCSE figures being consistently above the national average. This success is mirrored at A Level.

Our attentive tracking of progress ensures that no girl is left behind. Reports are sent home on a termly basis and Parents' Evenings enable parents/carers to discuss their daughter's academic progress.

We admit pupils across the whole range of abilities. Those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) are supported through a variety of flexible teaching methods, to provide support for a range of learning difficulties, from problems with reading and understanding to problems with spelling and handwriting.

“Pupils of all abilities make very strong progress and achieve very high results across a wide range of subjects.”

Ofsted 2016



Personal Development

We judge our own success not just by academic achievement, but by the nurturing of our pupils into independent, responsible citizens with a high regard for the standards of their work, behaviour, and dress. Not only do our staff aim to support every girl individually, we encourage them to support each other by extending courtesy and consideration to other pupils, staff and visitors.

Our belief is that open and honest communication between staff and pupils is key to helping pupils grow academically and personally. Our values of respect, honesty, ambition, teamwork, kindness, and trust come directly from our pupils who chose those as attributes they would like the school, as a community, to aim for.

Our assemblies utilise a wide range of themes to enable moral and spiritual issues to be raised in an open dialogue with pupil participation greatly encouraged.

“ Pupils’ personal development is a jewel in the crown of this school. The promotion of pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is demonstrated through high-quality art, drama, music, sport, as well as pupils’ tolerance and empathy. ”

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Strong Leadership

Expecting high standards of behaviour, work and dress is key to our success.

At the heart of school life in Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School is a caring community where we aim to help the girls feel valued.

We set challenges with achievable targets and always strive for improvement in all that we do.

Staff and pupils embrace the school values and engage with the whole community, setting the tone for a stimulating and well ordered, scholarly environment.

“ The curriculum is broad and balanced. There is a wide range of extra-curricular activity, with every teacher running at least one activity... Teaching is consistently strong. The sense of enjoyment from pupils and teachers as progress is made is palpable. ”

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“ The environment at Bishop’s has enabled my daughter to realise her learning potential. Each term she continues to grow.”
Year 9 Parent

Facilities

Our new building hosts a range of incredible facilities which enable us to fully maximise the teaching and learning potential of our staff and pupils, but also, and importantly so, reflects the culture of Bishop's Hatfield.

We aim to put literacy at the heart of everything, with our vision and other engaging extracts on the walls and doors all around and the library which sits at a focal point in our main building.

All communal spaces are open and inviting with each girl's Form Room also serving as her educational hub where she will meet with her Form Tutor and peers every day.

Our facilities are also equipped for a variety of Enrichment Activities which will hopefully allow each student to discover or develop new skills as they progress through the school.





Sixth Form

The Sixth Form plays a major part in the overall success of the school.

As part of the Welwyn and Hatfield Consortium we are able to offer a wider range of subjects whilst maintaining pastoral care and support at our site. Full details of the curriculum offer for Sixth Formers appear in the consortium prospectus, published annually and available on our website.

We encourage the development of leadership skills and students are valued for their varied contribution to the life of the school and community.

Academic results and University placement figures demonstrate our continuous success towards Higher Education and employment.

“ The Sixth Form makes a positive contribution to the school. Sixth formers undertake leadership roles and are effective role models to younger pupils. ”
Ofsted 2016





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We have taken care to ensure that all the information contained in this Prospectus is accurate at the time of writing. There may, however, be changes made before, during or after the beginning of the next school year which we cannot, at present, foresee.

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