

2023/24
Sixth Form Prospectus



Wallington
County Grammar School





HEADMASTER'S WELCOME

I am delighted that you are considering choosing Wallington County Grammar School, one of the best schools in the country. Our motto is Per Ardua Ad Summa, 'Through Difficulties to the Heights'. Coming to school here as a student or professional means that we reach those heights daily by being part of such a successful educational organisation. What makes us great is that we meet life's difficulties together, as a community and a family, using our core values of compassion, courage, commitment and creativity to achieve excellence.

We believe that we should always show compassion to others, making decisions without self-interest and supporting all those in our community to be happy and successful. We must have courage, never being afraid of failure but embracing it to learn from our mistakes and better ourselves. We are committed, not just to reaching academic success but to enriching ourselves as scholars, athletes, artists, musicians, actors, debaters and anything else we set our minds to. Finally we are creative, always being willing to consider different solutions and think deeply about the challenges we face as individuals and as a society. Above all, we celebrate our incredible students through a culture of praise and recognition to make sure they leave us with the conviction that they can achieve anything they put their minds to.

Being a boys selective school, founded in 1927, that welcomes girls into the Sixth Form, we work within Folio Education Trust to blend the best of tradition with innovation to engage and inspire our students to be the very best they can be.

Because of this our students achieve within the top 2% of all Sixth Forms in the country at A Level and go on to gain places at the world's top universities. Ofsted recognised the achievements of our wonderful students and staff, maintaining our 'outstanding' grading of the School in all categories in 2022. I am incredibly proud to have worked here for the last 16 years and look forward to many more moments of pride and delight in seeing the heights that our students reach each and every day.

If you wish to explore applying to the School, please visit the admissions page on our website and study our admissions criteria.

Yours faithfully,

Jamie Bean
Headmaster

***"Many relationships have been forged
and many memories have been created,
but ultimately I leave WCGS knowing
I have a family I can return to".
Rishi, Upper Sixth, Ruskin***



1,102 students
320 Sixth Form Boys
33 Sixth Form Girls



6 houses
38 House
competitions



Graded
'outstanding' in all
5 areas by Ofsted



GCSE grades
7-9: 71%



A Level attainment:
Top 2% in the
country



A Level grades
A*-B: 79%



63,760
commendations
awarded



9 students going
to Oxbridge or Ivy
League Universities



48% students
going onto Top 20
Universities



1 current
international
sportsmen and
women



53 rugby games
won



24 cricket
games won



83 educational
visits



60 second
languages spoken



95% attendance



218 students
supported by the
Pupil Premium



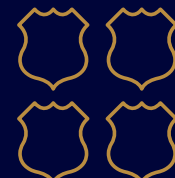
£7,857 raised
for charity



87 different Clubs
and Societies



1 refurbished
Drama Studio



Folio Education
Trust: Now 4
schools



DIRECTOR OF SIXTH FORM'S WELCOME

I am thrilled to know that you are considering joining the Sixth Form at Wallington County Grammar School, I hope the following gives you a flavour of the student experience at WCGS. The Sixth Form is all about providing pupils with the best opportunities to become outstanding young men and women.

At the heart of this is a culture of celebrating academic excellence, progress and challenge; Sixth Form students of Physics, History or Drama, for example, can become scholars, physicists, historians and actors, among other career options. Sixth Formers are not only encouraged to excel in their A-Level curricula, but also have the opportunity to tackle work of an undergraduate nature.

That said, the Sixth Form is about so much more than becoming excellent scholars. Pupils are encouraged to move out of their comfort zone, participate in leading the school and their younger peers and driving positive change as Senior Prefects, Presidents of Clubs and Societies, netballers, rugby players, debaters or School Council presidents. The development of a student's character, their confidence, resilience and leadership, is so crucial for their future success in higher education and beyond; the Sixth Form at Wallington County Grammar School seeks to provide as many opportunities as possible for students to hone these skills and become well-rounded individuals.

In addition to a challenging academic and co-curriculum, Sixth Formers are encouraged to aim for the very best higher education and career pathways, and are supported on this journey. Pupils have access to bespoke Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry, US College application and degree level apprenticeship support programmes as well as

1:1 career guidance. Indeed, our students are presented with the best and most ambitious post-18 options and go on to attend a plethora of world class higher education providers. This year 14 students are applying to study at Oxford or Cambridge. Wallington alumni can be found at all of the top universities in the UK and world leading institutions such as Harvard, Princeton and the University of Tokyo.

The final and most important element of life in the Sixth Form is an extremely supportive pastoral system. It is our aim for all of our Sixth Formers to love their learning, cherish their time at the school and become part of the Wallington family. The highly experienced Sixth Form and Pastoral Teams are always on hand to provide guidance, advice, support or just a listening ear so that pupils remain happy and successful and can focus on becoming the best versions of themselves.

I look forward to welcoming you into the Wallington family.

Liz Jennings
Director of Sixth Form

"WCGS really shines when it comes to the house system and house events - there's just so many events and the house spirit is amazing".

Vini, Upper Sixth, Radcliffe

CURRICULUM

Wallington County Grammar School provides a broad and deep academic curriculum that aims to equip all students with the necessary knowledge and values to lead happy and successful lives and to participate in and lead our country’s democracy.

The first aim of our curriculum is to develop the core values mentioned in my welcome to the School - commitment, compassion, courage and creativity. They are at the centre of all we do and are recognised through our praise policy and developed through our weekly assemblies, outstanding careers programme and enrichment opportunities.

Secondly, we intend to provide a broad, academic and liberal curriculum that equips students with a body of human knowledge and different ways of thinking necessary to succeed in and enjoy their education, careers and wider lives. This is why we employ only highly qualified, specialist teachers to deliver our highly academic A Level options. All Sixth Formers choose four courses with many taking all four through to the end of Upper Sixth.

Thirdly, we do not want our students to simply study examination specifications with grades being our sole focus. We aim for our students to become true scholars of the disciplines that they are learning so that they achieve a deep and sophisticated level of knowledge and understanding. This is why we include Deep Thinking Challenges in every lesson to push students out of their comfort zone and engage them in the value of scholarship. It is also why we provide a full programme of wider reading and Oxbridge/Ivy League preparation to support applications to the world’s best universities.

Finally, we aim for all our students to have the necessary knowledge and confidence, not just to participate in the democracy of the United Kingdom, but to lead within it. This is why we place politics in our core academic curriculum through timetabled lessons, dedicated drop down days and clubs and societies.

KS5 (Sixth Form Options)

Art and Design	English Literature	Latin
Biology	EPQ	Mathematics
Chemistry	French	Music
Classics	Further Mathematics	Philosophy
Computer Science	Geography	Physics
Design and Engineering	Government and Politics	Spanish
Drama	History	
Economics		

“I made memories that I’ll cherish forever and tell all my children about”.
Rahmat, Upper Sixth, Carew



THE CO-CURRICULUM

The co-curriculum of Wallington County Grammar School takes students beyond the classroom and exam specifications to provide rich and diverse experiences that help develop well rounded scholars and citizens.

The House System is at the very heart of School life. All students are assigned to one of six houses named after local people and areas of distinction: Bridges, Carew, Mandeville, Radcliffe Ruskin and Woodcote. Students are allocated to Form Groups based on these Houses. We run a multitude of house competitions throughout the year that contribute to the overall winner of the Cock House Cup. These include rugby, cricket, athletics, football, basketball, drama, music, art, literature, debating, chess, maths challenges and the Commendations Cup.

Clubs and Societies time is built into the school timetable so that all students have regular opportunities to pursue and expand their interests. Our current offering includes: the Duke of Edinburgh Award, politics, debating, scouts, chess, journalism, world cinema, LGBT+, football forum, medicine, as well as a huge range linked to different subject disciplines, career pathways and cultures. Our flagship society is the Hutchins Society during which students present academic papers to the rest of the School on areas of interest and study.

Sport and the arts are also central to our School ethos. Our elite rugby, cricket and netball provision allow us to compete with the top schools nationally and we run regular tours abroad to Canada, South Africa and Sri Lanka. Regarding the arts, we run a whole school production each year as well as numerous other performances and recitals by our many actors, musicians and orchestras.

Students are encouraged to take an active role in leading the School be it as a Form Captain, member of the School Council, prefect or even as Head Boy or Head Girl. Notable achievements of our student leaders include raising thousands of pounds for charity through our annual RAG Week and Movember campaigns, contributing to our assessment and homework policies, organising table tennis tables to be placed in playgrounds as well as developing our provision in the WCGS cafe.

Finally, the School also runs a huge number of trips both domestic and abroad. We run ski trips, water sports holidays and tours of the classical sites of Greece and Rome. In a normal year, we will run over 80 educational visits.



PASTORAL CARE

Every student and staff member becomes a member of our WCGS family when they join the school and remain so for the rest of their lives.

We are renowned for the quality of the pastoral care that we provide and this starts before students even join the School with a full induction programme including orientation and team building days. On entry into the School, all students are assigned to a House Form Group with a dedicated tutor who will support them through any difficulties that they face. Form Tutors are led by Year Leaders who are in turn led by the Director of Sixth Form so that there is always someone there to support a student that needs it. We also have a dedicated School Councillor on hand if more specialist support is required.

The School has a zero tolerance approach to bullying and discrimination in any form and we have a team of trained Anti-Bullying and eSafety Ambassadors who are there to support any student that needs it. We also have both an anti-racism and anti-sexism task force as well as an active LGBT+ society which lead on inclusion and celebrating diversity within the School. This is at its best during our annual Fashion and Talent Show during which the Lower Sixth host a wonderful celebration of the many talents and diverse cultures of our School community.

Our Special Education Needs Department is run by our SENCo and Deputy Head Teacher Mrs Owen. We are here to support a wide range of learning needs and apply for access arrangements to be put in place for A Levels when needed.

The School runs a dedicated Wellbeing curriculum that addresses such issues as building healthy relationships, substance abuse, eSafety, anti radicalisation, dealing with discrimination and mental health. This is supported by weekly Form Time sessions and assemblies during which the most pressing pastoral issues are discussed and debated openly and freely. We also provide a huge amount of support for parents through regular Parent Workshops on pastoral issues and those related to the progress of their children. We host annual parents evenings and provide at least two reports a year commenting on students' progress, attendance, commitment, conduct, organisation and ways that parents can support their children further.

TEACHING AND LEARNING



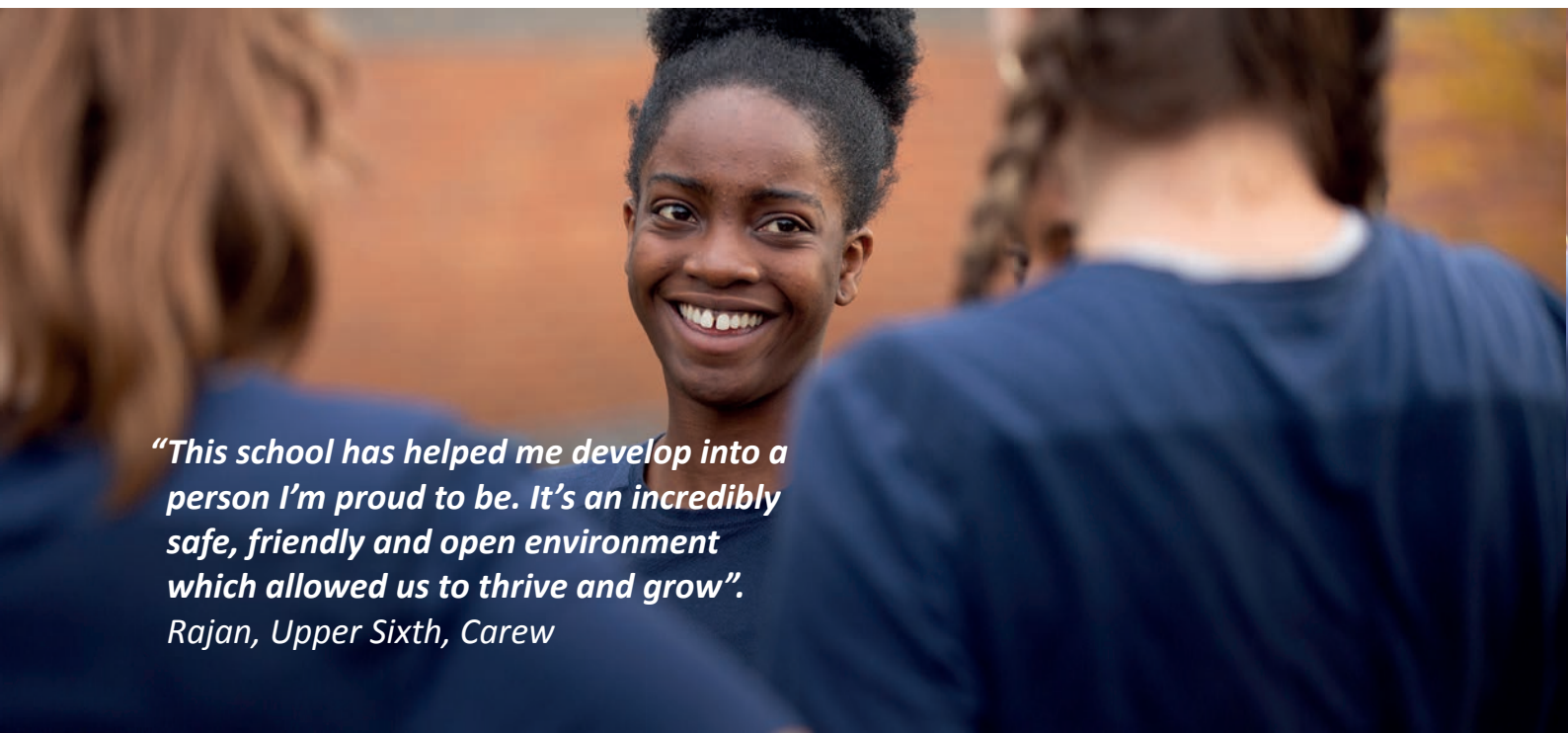
To see a WCGS lesson is to see students with a genuine thirst for knowledge and a keen sense of scholarship stretched to the boundaries of their ability. It is to see expert teachers deliver inspiring subject knowledge and encouraging discussion, research and debate, to develop confident, independent thinkers.

The School takes an evidence based approach to teaching and learning and our pedagogy is based primarily on the expert design and delivery of a stimulating and intellectual curriculum. Teachers go above and beyond to engage and inspire their students, using their rich subject knowledge and a deep understanding of how students learn to create a real sense of scholarship in their classrooms. As mentioned above, Deep Thinking Challenges are built into all lessons to provide stretch and challenge for those students who are ready. Opportunities for 'retrieval practice' are also regularly included in lessons to support the long term acquisition of knowledge rather than students learning key concepts and only revisiting them during their revision.

Each Subject Leader is responsible for their assessment schedules depending on how their curriculum is structured. Success is always modelled to students and techniques embedded through regular practice. Feedback is provided to students by their teachers in green pen, by themselves and their peers in red pen and

all corrections/modifications are then made in purple so that students and teachers can clearly see the impact that assessment is having on their learning.

Lessons in the School take a variety of formats with teachers never shying away from imparting their deep knowledge of the subject and asking students to work in silence when practicing key concepts. On the other hand, they are also extremely creative with pair and group work opportunities being provided in most lessons to promote a sense of collaborative learning and practical, hands-on activities being used to stimulate interest and deepen learning. Homework is set in all year groups and is used both to prepare students for future learning and to consolidate knowledge from previous lessons. Students receive dedicated Private Study time to focus on any learning set out of the classroom. It is expected that all students have access to a laptop or computer at home and the School will support those families who need it financially to make this a reality for all students.



"This school has helped me develop into a person I'm proud to be. It's an incredibly safe, friendly and open environment which allowed us to thrive and grow".
Rajan, Upper Sixth, Carew



OUTCOMES



The staff of WCGS aim for every one of our students to achieve academic success but also to send them off to the next phase of their education as happy, confident young men and women instilled with our values and ready to lead in shaping the country’s future.

Following their examinations, our students go to the best universities in the county. Of our most recent cohort, 9 went to either Oxford, Cambridge or Princeton, 46% went to a Russell Group University and 48% went on to study at universities ranked in the top 20 nationally (Complete Universities Guide). Overall, 86% of students went onto university and 94% of those from disadvantaged backgrounds (those on the Pupil Premium and Free School Meals).

The most popular courses chosen include: Aerospace Engineering, Ancient History, Architecture, Biomedical Sciences, Chemistry, Computer Science, Dentistry, Economics, Geography, History, Law, Mathematics, Mechanical Engineering, Medicine, Natural Sciences, Pharmacy, Philosophy, Politics & Economics (PPE) and Physics.

The School’s A Level results are in the top 2% in the county and the School was placed 13th in London and 56th nationwide in the Times Parent Power 2023 rankings. Our academic results are as follows:

A Level

	2018 Percentages					2019 Percentages					2023 A Level Results				
	Entries	A*	A*/A	A*-B	A*-C	Entries	A*	A*/A	A*-B	A*-C	Entries	A*	A*/A	A*-B	A*-C
Art	5	20	40	80	100	2	0	0	100	100	2	0	0	50	100
Biology	70	17	37	63	94	75	4	27	63	89	53	21	49	74	91
Chemistry	85	13	47	81	98	81	7	36	77	89	75	12	49	76	89
Classics	7	0	29	100	100	9	11	67	100	100	20	10	60	85	95
Computer Science	17	12	41	53	82	11	9	27	64	73	31	10	48	77	97
Drama											1	0	0	100	100
Economics	45	11	71	87	100	55	22	66	96	100	54	19	54	91	96
English Literature	19	11	47	90	100	12	8	75	92	100	14	7	29	86	86
French	5	0	80	80	100	2	0	0	0	100	3	0	33	33	100
Geography	12	8	33	75	83	11	0	36	91	100	16	13	44	94	100
Government & Politics	20	5	55	65	90	14	14	64	93	100	20	15	30	70	100
History	26	19	62	92	100	23	26	65	91	100	29	14	66	86	100
Mathematics	146	23	58	82	93	148	22	46	71	83	145	25	62	82	90
Further Mathematics	29	21	66	83	86	19	32	74	100	100	32	28	66	84	94
Music						5		60	100	100	4	0	50	50	75
Philosophy	4	0	25	100	100	13	8	31	62	100	11	0	18	55	82
Physics	53	15	49	76	87	61	16	43	72	92	60	10	38	65	82
Spanish	6	17	67	100	100	3	0	67	100	100	2	0	50	50	50
Overall	549	16	53	79	94	539	15	46	77	91	572	17	52	79	91





www.wcgs-sutton.co.uk
enquiries@wcgs.foliotrust.uk