



Nonsuch High School for Girls

Nonsuch School Values



Positivity



Respect



Integrity



Courage



Endeavour



Nonsuch High School for Girls

Ewell Road, Cheam, Surrey, SM3 8AB

Telephone: 020 8394 3400

office@nonsuchschool.org

www.nonsuchschool.org

You can follow us on X @NonsuchHSG

Welcome from the Headteacher



As Headteacher, I feel privileged to lead a school where the entire community is committed to excellence, and we are proud that we are one of the top girl's schools in the country.

At Nonsuch, our students remain the centre of everything that we do. We are passionate about Girls Education and our teachers are experts in their fields committed to bringing out the best in our students. Our students in turn work hard to achieve the results they rightly aspire to and are supported unreservedly by teachers, staff, and parents.

Students at Nonsuch not only achieve academic excellence but also actively contribute to the school and its wider community. By participating in sports, creative endeavours, and fundraising activities, students develop their leadership and creativity skills, as well as their awareness of the wider world, preparing them to become the leaders of the future. We are ambitious for their whole development in preparing them to be perceptive and caring global citizens who are not only prepared for the 21st century but who understand its complexity. In a rapidly evolving world they need to learn to manage uncertainty, make wise choices and develop the skills and desire for life-long learning.

We have a strong pastoral care system that supports our students' well-being as they strive for academic achievement. We help young women to manage themselves and their emotions as they move through adolescence and leave school as emerging adults. But most importantly are an inclusive community, dedicated to ensuring that all students feel happy, safe, and have a sense of belonging to our Nonsuch family.

Our curriculum is broad and balanced and supports our students in developing their skills in Maths, Science, the arts, language and literature, sport and dance, humanities and languages. We encourage young women in fields where they are currently under-represented and in which many of our students excel such as Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics. The humanities, English and languages develop skills of communication and analysis. Our emphasis on public speaking and debating helps our students become articulate communicators and hones their powers of persuasion. Wider society benefits from young people who are emotionally intelligent and intellectually flexible.

This school provides a wealth of enrichment opportunities beyond lessons and is proud of its long-standing House System which underpins the life of the school. It is the feeling of belonging to and having a productive place in a school community that fosters self-confidence and a positive state of mind in young people. Our school values of Positivity, Respect, Integrity, Courage and Endeavour (PRICE) underpin our decisions and form the basis of our expectations and rewards system.

Nonsuch girls are ambitious, strong, passionate, and articulate. They embody our PRICE values and are determined to forge their own paths for the future. As a school, we are committed to helping them achieve their aspirations.

Throughout its 80 years of existence, and now as part of the Girls' Learning Trust, Nonsuch has striven to provide the best educational experience for girls to prepare them for their future life. We are very proud of our school and we invite you to find out more at our Open Evening.

Alexis Williamson-Jones
Headteacher (Sept 2024)



Introduction

What is the Girls' Learning Trust?

The Girls' Learning Trust (GLT) was formed in September 2015 and initially comprised two schools: Nonsuch High School for Girls and Wallington High School for Girls. In April 2018, Carshalton High School for Girls joined and further strengthened our Trust.

The aims of the Girls' Learning Trust are to deliver a first-class education for girls (your child), ensuring that they fulfil their full potential and leave the school (and the Trust) well prepared for their future. With around 4500 students and a highly effective operating model, we give our member schools the financial strength to drive school improvement and provide increased opportunities for students and staff across the Trust. We aim to grow modestly over the coming years but are committed to retaining our all-girls identity and operating within the London and Southeast regions.

We believe that by operating and collaborating as a multi academy trust of three schools rather than as standalone academies, we can ensure that your child receives the very best education possible.

How does the Trust operate?

The aims of Trust are achieved through:

- Consistently delivering excellent standards of teaching, based on setting high expectations for all, and by taking an evaluative approach to improving performance that secures strong outcomes for all our students.
- Developing strong collaboration across the Trust, ensuring each school is a giver and receiver of support where needed.
- Ensuring effective professional development and career progression opportunities across the Trust in order to recruit and retain excellent staff.
- Delivering effective pastoral provision to all our students ensuring they are supported, developed and well cared for during their time in the Trust.
- Developing a strong understanding of how girls learn most effectively, using this expertise to underpin our approach to education across the Trust.

- Promoting and developing high aspirations for our young women allowing them to become the successful female leaders of the future.
- Creating an exciting, challenging and inspired curriculum across the Trust, both inside and outside of the classroom, to allow all students to realise their full potential.
- Securing a financially viable Trust through strategic financial management and by working collaboratively to secure financial efficiencies.
- Communicating effectively with all of our stakeholders, acknowledging the important role they play in the Trust.

How are the schools governed?

The CEO is the Accounting Officer for the Trust (Dr Thomas Flynn), and along with the Trust Board, is ultimately accountable and responsible for the strategic direction and outcomes of all schools. The Trust Board sets key performance indicators (KPIs) for this overall strategic vision to be monitored and reviewed. The Headteachers report to, and are supported by, the CEO.

We operate a model where each school operates with substantial autonomy and retains its own identity. We believe strongly in allowing our schools autonomy in developing approaches to pedagogy and the curriculum that will deliver the very best outcomes for their students. Each school therefore has its own Local Governing Body (LGB) which is responsible for working with the Headteacher and senior team to deliver this, acting as 'critical friends' and supporting and challenging where needed. A clear scheme of delegation differentiates between the roles of the Trust Board and the Local Governing Body. Free from some of the financial and operational responsibilities of a standalone role, the primary focus of the Headteacher role within the Trust structure is to provide highly effective leadership of the teaching and learning within their school alongside day-to-day management.

For more information on the Trust please go to the GLT website: www.girlslearningtrust.org



Accommodation

Excellent facilities at Nonsuch support the high quality of teaching and learning across the curriculum. Our sixth form block was further developed in 2020 with an extra study area, computer room and two new classrooms to complement the library and other study area/common room on the floors above, which were developed in 2016. Subjects are taught in suites of classrooms. Recently refurbished Science and Drama accommodation, an Astronomy Dome and language laboratory provide further excellent facilities.

There is Wi-Fi throughout the school.

The Science department teaches in 13 modern laboratories with adjacent prep rooms to support practical work. The modern technology rooms and airy Art studios provide superb opportunities for students to develop creative skills. Our two drama studios are equipped with versatile portable lighting and staging. Nonsuch is a centre of excellence for Music which is taught in the large suite above the Main Hall. Facilities include two classrooms, with access to professional composition software and eight Practice Rooms for students to use during lessons, lunchtimes and after school. All students enjoy PE in the huge sports hall, on the all-weather floodlit hockey pitch, extensive playing fields, tennis and netball courts; they also have access to the indoor heated swimming pool within the David Lloyd Health and Fitness Centre. Study is encouraged in the library which also has an IT suite to support independent learning.

“We are privileged to have a daughter at Nonsuch High School”

“Student welfare is excellent; our daughter is blossoming in a friendly happy environment”

(Year 7 Parent)

Key Stage 3

(KS3) – Years 7-9



In Key Stage 3 all students follow a broadly based course including the study of one foreign language and Latin. Activities available in Physical Education include athletics, dance, gymnastics, hockey, netball, rounders, volleyball, tennis and swimming. Technology incorporates food, resistant materials and textiles, and is taught in mixed form groups comprising 20 or so students. Sciences are taught as the three separate sciences from Year 8 onwards with specialist teachers. The Sutton agreed syllabus for Religious Studies covers the major faiths. The course also includes elements of personal, social, moral and citizenship education. Parents may withdraw their child from religious education and collective worship if they so wish, though in practice few do so. Details of alternative arrangements are available upon request.

“The facilities here are extremely good and the lessons brought alive by the teachers”
(Year 7 Student)



KS3 Curriculum

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Geography
- History
- A Modern Foreign Language
(from French, German and Spanish)
- Latin
- Design and Technology
- Computing
- Art and Design
- Drama
- Music
- Physical Education
- Religious Studies
- Personal, Social and Health
Education (PSHE) including
Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

Key Stage 4

(KS4) – Years 10-11



In Year 10, students are put into broad tiers of ability for Maths and Sciences only.

At Key Stage 4 all students take the core subjects alongside their chosen GCSE subjects; a detailed booklet and a comprehensive programme of advice for students and parents are provided before options are finalised.

Core GCSE Curriculum:

- English
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Triple Science
- French, German or Spanish
- Half course in RS and Core PE
- Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) including Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

“If I could choose a school for my daughter all over again, this is the one I would choose”

(Year 10 Parent)



Optional GCSE Subjects include:

- History
- Geography
- Astronomy
- Latin
- French
- German
- Spanish
- Computer Science
- Product Design
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- Fine Art
- Photography
- Textiles
- Music
- Drama
- PE

The Sixth Form



The Sixth Form is a vibrant and intellectually challenging community. Year 11 students are advised individually before selecting their A level subjects. A formal induction programme supports all students – those already at Nonsuch and those joining from other schools – in making the transition between GCSE and study at Sixth Form level. Entry requirements are published annually. Over 95% of our students go on to study university courses. Interview practice is available and students are prepared for the additional entry tests for subjects such as Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science. The school has a good record with successful Oxbridge applications as well as applications for Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science and those keen to apply are provided with bespoke guidance and opportunities.

The majority of students choose to study 3 A Levels with a small number opting for 4 most usually including Further Maths. In addition, all students select an elective option from a menu of around 10 options which range from Arts Award or Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) to Dissection, Young Enterprise or a Sports Leaders' award. An enrichment afternoon allows students to help out in the local community. Students are also encouraged to get involved in one of the school's many clubs and societies.

Subjects available include:

- Art and Design: Fine Art
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Design and Technology: Product Design
- Drama
- Economics
- English Literature
- French
- Geography
- German
- Politics
- History
- Latin
- Mathematics
- Further Mathematics
- Music
- Philosophy and Ethics (Religious Studies)
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Psychology
- Spanish

“I have enjoyed my time at Nonsuch and will miss it when I leave”
(Year 13 Student)



Homework

“We are motivated to work to our full potential”

The aim of homework setting at Nonsuch is to set work that entails: preparation, application or consolidation. Students will develop independence by:

- Preparing for the next steps in the programme of study
- Applying the skills taught in class
- Consolidating knowledge to embed it into their longer-term memory.

Homework is set throughout the school to encourage good study skills, independence and to support the curriculum. All students in Years 7 to 11 are issued with a homework timetable.

Extra-Curricular Activities



Students benefit from being involved in the wide range of extra-curricular activities on offer. Over 300 students participate in the Duke of Edinburgh award at bronze, silver or gold level and more than 100 girls are part of CCF. There are a large number of weekly lunchtime and afterschool clubs including Astronomy Society, Book folding, Creative writing, Gardening Club, Dance, Debating, Drama, and Programming club catering for the varied interests of the pupils. Pupils can also join in many sporting activities and may be selected to represent the school in teams at a variety of levels. Year 9 may train to be ball girls at the Championships at Queen's Club.

Musicians choose from our two Orchestras, Concert Band, Jazz Band, several Choirs and numerous smaller instrumental groups, all of which perform at our internal concerts and at local and national events. Over 300 students have peripatetic teachers, who cover the full range of orchestral instruments, plus singing, guitar, drums, piano, theory and composition. There are frequent trips to hear world class music at venues such as The Royal Opera House and The Barbican.

Many educational and cultural visits usually take place each year, providing the opportunity for students to travel both in this country and abroad: to America, Spain, France, Germany and Italy. Field courses, conferences, theatre and museum visits all support curriculum studies and enable girls to widen their intellectual horizons.

“Her confidence and initiative to do things have increased. Her teachers are brilliant and motivate her to excel”



School Community

Every individual student is cared for: Heads of Year and Form Tutors support the students throughout their time at Nonsuch. Opportunities for active citizenship abound; a representative from each form attends the School Council, which discusses issues of current importance. Each tutor group forms one of our seven Houses and competitions are organised in sport, music and other popular activities such as the Talent Show. Students can also gain House Points for their work. Sixth Formers appointed as members of the Student Leadership Team, Arts Team and Sports Team or as prefects, and those elected to the Sixth Form Committee play a vital role in the life of the school as a whole.

Up to the end of Year 11, all students wear School uniform. Self-discipline is encouraged and students are expected to contribute to the School Community and to show consideration for other people.

They participate in fund-raising events, collections for charity and voluntary social work.

All students from Years 7 to 11 remain on the school premises during the lunch-break. They may bring a packed lunch or eat in the school canteen where an excellent, cash-free cafeteria with an emphasis on healthy food operates.

“A lovely environment in which to have spent the last seven years”

Parents, Carers & the School



Parental involvement with the school is much appreciated as an essential part of the welfare and achievement of students. In addition to evenings specifically for guidance, there are Parents' Consultation Evenings for each year. Interim progress reports are written for all students. Parents are elected to the Local Governing Body and play an active role in the governance of the school. We are keen to develop further electronic communication with parents who may consult the school website www.nonsuchschool.org. In addition a regular newsletter is sent by email and many parents follow us on X to read up to the minute good news – X @NonsuchHSG.

We also have a termly meeting with a Parent Focus group with representatives across the year groups to discuss matters of mutual interest. Membership of this group changes annually.

All parents are asked to sign a Home-School agreement known as the "Nonsuch Charter". If there are concerns, parents are consulted as soon as possible. For more serious issues there is a GLT Complaints procedure. This and other policy documents are updated regularly and all, including the GLT Special Educational Needs policy and the report on the school by the Office for Standards in Education (OFSTED) can be found on our website.

Parents are asked each year to contribute to the School Fund, which is used to subsidise extra-curricular activities, school occasions and visits, to purchase extra equipment and to cover subscriptions to magazines, curriculum associations and fees of visiting speakers. A system of covenanting operates which has many benefits for the School.

All parents and friends are encouraged to be active members of the Parent Teacher Association so that they may enjoy the many successful social and fund-raising occasions.

Admission Arrangements

Criteria for entry to Nonsuch are published on our website.

Alumni

Nonsuch Alumni warmly invite all former students to become members and join their meetings and reunion events.



Nonsuch High School for Girls

Ewell Road, Cheam, Surrey, SM3 8AB
 Telephone: 020 8394 3400
office@nonsuchschool.org www.nonsuchschool.org
 You can follow us on X @NonsuchHSG

