



WYCOMBE ABBEY



Open Morning

SATURDAY 17 MARCH 2018

-
- 9:00am: Arrival; breakfast reception and tours of the Performing Arts Centre
- 9:45am: Welcome presentations from the Headmistress Rhiannon Wilkinson and the Head Girl team
- 10:30am: Tours of the School and the opportunity to talk to senior staff and enjoy refreshments in the Davies Sports Centre or The Courtyard
- 12:30pm: Close
-

Wycombe Abbey
A world leader in girls' boarding
education and a place where academic
excellence, empathy and integrity thrive.



Headmistress's Welcome

I regard it as an enormous privilege to lead one of the world's most successful girls' boarding schools. We hope today will give you a flavour of life here at Wycombe Abbey and you will leave knowing the School better.

Wycombe Abbey is an outstanding School by whatever criteria you may choose to judge educational institutions. Our pupils gain admission to competitive courses at leading universities throughout the world. At the same time we are proud to promote a love of learning for its own sake – not just for utilitarian purposes. We are committed to providing a wide range of opportunities for intellectual interest and development outside the classroom. Wycombe Abbey fosters a culture of high expectations and the importance of trying your best at everything.

At the heart of the School's success is a total commitment to the development of good, caring human beings through our proactive, individualised pastoral care. Everyone at Wycombe Abbey is part of a happy and close-knit community. No one gets lost in the crowd – everyone is known and cherished as an individual.

In addition, the School provides a rich and varied programme of co-curricular opportunities throughout the week, including Music, Sport, Drama, Dance and outdoor education as well as an extensive range of other pursuits. These opportunities are all hugely enjoyable in themselves but they also help girls to develop confidence and the plethora of skills they will require to be successful and happy in the demanding and ever expanding global workplace.

I hope you enjoy your time spent exploring our School and I look forward to meeting many of you during the morning.

Mrs Rhiannon J Wilkinson MA (Oxon) MEd
Headmistress

Open Morning Programme

We are delighted to invite you to experience the following selection of activities this morning:

Sport

Visit the Davies Sports Centre to have a go on our climbing wall, take part in trampolining and netball activities and watch displays in gymnastics, aqua aerobics and dance. You're also welcome to join in with our Lacrosse workshop on Midget Pitch.

Music

Enjoy performances from our hamber ensembles (Fisher Library), rock bands (Big School) and organists (Chapel).

Nutrition

Enjoy a selection of tasters and watch live cooking in the Main School Dining Room.

Science

Biology: (P2) Have a look through microscopes and dissect owl pellets. Come and meet our live snake.

Chemistry: (C2) Make slime, conduct flame tests and 'guess the smell'!

Physics: (P2) See the Van de Graaff generator, hologram machine and infra-red camera in action as well as a new data logging system.

Psychology: (C2) Experience a social conformity experiment, brain training and optical illusions.

Art

View the girls' A Level and GCSE exam pieces and sketchbooks and observe a lesson in the art rooms.

Chapel

Meet our Chaplain, the Rev'd Jane Chaffey and hear our organists play in the Chapel.

Classics

Try our language and mythology quiz in classroom T5.

Computer Science

Explore the fields of programming and robotics in Computer Room 1.

Drama

Observe our U11 exploring Victorian Melodrama in the Clarence Common Room.

Design and Technology

Take a seat in the Green Power Car built by our girls and make your own mini Land Rover.

Economics

Learn about monetary policies with the VI Form in classroom T1.

English

Join our literary quiz in classroom T6.

Health and Wellbeing

Meet our nursing team, School Counsellor and Wellbeing teacher. Try out some of the activities in the Health and Wellbeing Centre.

History

Learn about medieval farming life and the gunpowder plot in classroom W4.

History of Art

Play art history games in classroom T9.

Religious Studies

Come and match objects to their religious traditions and guess what they are used for in classroom T3.

Mathematics

Take part in logic puzzles and interactive games in classroom T7.

Modern Languages

Try our music quiz in Language Lab A.

The Headmistress, Admissions team and senior staff will be in the Davies Sports Centre and The Courtyard to answer any further questions about the School. Refreshments will also be served at both of these venues throughout the morning.

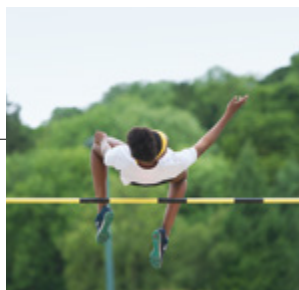


Recent Highlights

Sport

Our Sports department has been ranked in the top ten independent schools for sport for the second year running. We are eighth overall in the UK and the third best girls' school nationwide. The ranking – conducted by *School Sport Magazine* – reflects competitive achievements in a range of sports throughout 2017.

In other sporting news, we are delighted to report the outstanding success of our School Ski team at the Independent Schools' Ski Championships held in Les Deux Alpes back in December. Our girls dominated both at team and individual level and were crowned overall team champions. This was followed by further success at national level at the British Schoolgirls' Ski Racing Championships in Flaine in January. The A Team came second overall, demonstrating once again great determination and spirit during the four days of intense training and competition.



Drama

Recent performances have included *Little Voice*, *King Lear*, *Blue Remembered Hills*, and *Grimm Tales*. Our girls also excelled in the LAMDA examinations, achieving 24 Merits and an impressive 81 Distinctions.

Music

As well as performing in the magnificent St John's Smith Square in London earlier in the year, our musicians also enjoyed the delights of performing in Rome and Sorrento last summer. A particular highlight included a concert at St Peter's Basilica.



Two brand new boarding houses

We are thrilled to have opened two brand new boarding houses in September 2017. The new houses are now home to more than 100 girls and six members of staff, along with their families (and other animals!). The accommodation offers both single rooms and dormitories for up to four pupils. Each room has ensuite facilities and the building also comprises two living rooms, two kitchens, six study rooms and four music practice rooms.



Lectures

In September, the BBC's ex-Chief News Correspondent Kate Adie visited the School to tell of her own experiences over her 40-year career in journalism.

In January, we welcomed conservationist Sacha Dench to tell of her journey tracking the flight of the Bewick Swans from their breeding grounds in Arctic Russia to the wetlands of Gloucestershire. Unbelievably, she actually flew the 4,500-mile journey with the swans using a paramotor!

Dame Helen Ghosh, Director-General of the National Trust, one of the largest charities in the country, spoke about her careers in the Civil Service and NT, steering the strategic conservation of historic properties, beautiful landscapes and natural coastline. The talk was one of Dame Helen's final public appearances in her current role before moving to become the first female and first non-academic Master of Baliol College, Oxford.

Model United Nations

Our Model United Nations teams go from strength to strength and we have attended an increasing number of conferences, including an extremely successful event hosted by Lady Eleanor Holles School. As well as winning the Outstanding Delegation Award, six Wycombe Abbey girls also won individual prizes for the standard of their contribution to the debate.



Oxbridge Offers

Whilst the application process for 2018 university entry is far from over, we are delighted to announce that 29 Wycombe Abbey girls have received offers from Oxford and Cambridge Universities, with 14 girls gaining places at Cambridge and 15 at Oxford – the highest number of offers from Oxford in the past seven years.

New international school to open in China

Wycombe Abbey International and BE Education held a groundbreaking ceremony in Hangzhou, China at the end of January to mark the start of construction of a second Wycombe Abbey International school, expected to open in September 2020.

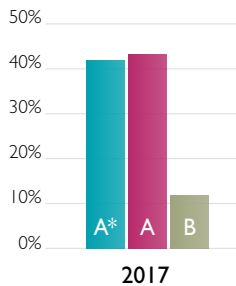


Outstanding Examination Results

Ranked as the top independent school in the South East and second nationally by The Sunday Times Parent Power supplement based on our 2017 A level and GCSE results.

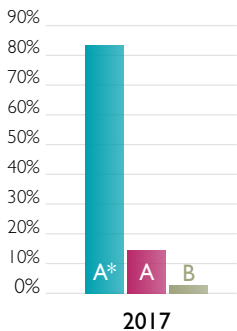
A level results

In 2016-2017, 42% of our A level grades were awarded an A* and 85% were A*-A.



GCSE Results

In 2016-2017, 82% of our GCSE grades were at A* with 975 of all entries being A*-A.



University Destinations

Our girls' academic success enables them to gain places at high-ranking universities on competitive courses. Each year, about a one third of our Sixth Form leavers gain Oxbridge offers, with many of the rest heading off to Russell Group universities and top US universities such as Columbia, Harvard, MIT, Princeton and Stanford.

In 2017 our girls went to the following universities:

UK	
University of Cardiff	University of Liverpool
University of Cambridge	London School of Economics and Political Science
Durham University	University of Oxford
The University of Edinburgh	University of Newcastle
University of Exeter	University of Nottingham
Imperial College London	University of Sheffield
King's College London	University of Warwick
University of Leicester	University College London
	Queen Mary University of London
US	
Claremont McKenna	New York University
Cornell University	Yale
	Stanford
Rest of the world	
The University of Hong Kong	



Careers Guidance

Wycombe Abbey aims to inspire, inform and support girls in preparing for rewarding and successful careers. The whole school is involved in our 'Breaking the Mould' events featuring inspirational speakers; these have included a commercial pilot, stand-up comedian, vicar, hostage negotiator, structural engineer and a jewellery designer. Additional events include Careers Spotlights on particular industries, most recently on Computer Science and Architecture and our Careers Seminar, with more than 20 speakers talking about their specific career paths. Girls are encouraged and supported to undertake work experience placements and we are able to network with Seniors and Parents to provide an increasing number of opportunities. Every girl in the Sixth Form attends the Management Conference and Leadership Conference, enabling them to acquire valuable employability skills. Wycombe Abbey is also a member of Futurewise, which offers an array of courses spanning career areas from law and medicine through to journalism and media.

Admissions Information

All admissions information is available on our website: www.wycombeabbey.com/admissions.
Mrs Sophie Langdale and her Admissions Team are always happy to answer any questions and offer advice.
Please contact the team by emailing registrar@wycombeabbey.com or telephone **01494 897008**.

Dates for 2019/2020

11+

Music Scholarship Pre-audition	17 October 2018
Assessment Sessions	18 October 2018
Common Entrance	21 and 22 January 2019
Wycombe Sleepover	2 to 3 February 2019 and 9 to 10 February 2019
Music Scholarship	13 February 2019
Scholarship Exams	14 February 2019
Social Induction Afternoon	8 June 2019

13+

Assessment Sessions	27 and 28 September 2018
Music Scholarship Pre-audition	27 and 28 September 2018
Music Scholarship	10 January 2019
Scholarship Exams	11 and 12 January 2019
Common Entrance	28 and 31 January 2019
Wycombe Summer Sleepover	26 to 27 June 2019

Sixth Form 2019

Entrance Exams	5 November 2018
Music Scholarship	6 November 2018

Sixth Form 2020

Interviews & English Test	4 February 2019
	29 April 2019
	3 June 2019
	24 June 2019

Visiting the School

Once registered, families are welcome to visit the School in the academic year prior to the assessment for an individual tour and an appointment with the Headmistress, Mrs Rhiannon Wilkinson. Please contact the Admissions Office to arrange your visit.





WYCOMBE ABBEY

