



WYCOMBE ABBEY



Open Morning

SATURDAY 9 JUNE 2018

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- 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
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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:

BSA Boarding Bus

Discuss the benefits of boarding with our Deputy Head (pupils) in front of the Abbey.

Sport

Visit the Davies Sports Centre to scale our climbing wall, have a go on our trampolines and take part in netball activities. Watch our gymnastics and tennis players in training, as well as an aqua aerobics display. Have a go at Lacrosse in our Workshop on Midget Pitch.

Music

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

Nutrition

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

Science

Biology: (P2) Have a look through our 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' final A Level and GCSE exam pieces and sketchbooks.

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 latest web technologies and observe a lesson in CR1.

Design and Technology

Take a seat in the Green Power Car built by our girls and see the laser cutter in action.

Drama

Observe a lesson learning devising techniques and spontaneous improvisation in Clarence Common Room.

Economics

Have a go at our economics and enterprise activities in classroom T2.

English

Get involved in a poetry workshop under the tree on Lavinia Way.

Geography

Have a go at some geographical challenges in W1.

Health and Wellbeing

Meet our Nursing Team, School Counsellor and Wellbeing teacher. Get involved in activities in the Health and Wellbeing Centre.

History

Test your historical knowledge in classroom T6.

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, interactive games and pirate problems in classroom T7.

Modern Languages

Try our music quiz in Language Lab A.

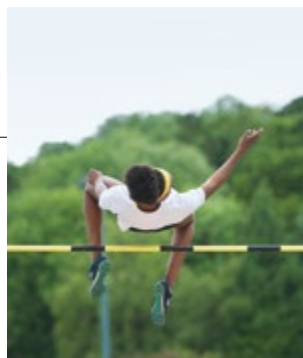
The Headmistress, Admissions team and senior staff will be in the Davies Sports Centre and The Courtyard to answer any further questions about the School. Refreshments will also be served at both of these venues throughout the morning.



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.



Drama

Recent performances have included *The Revengers* and *Dancing at Lughnasa*. Our girls also excelled in 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. More recently, the girls joined forces with the Music Society of Eton College for a tremendous performance of Verdi's *Requiem*.



Highlights Dance Show

Our 'Highlights' performance was a showcase of dance at Wycombe Abbey. Girls from U11 to U16 took part in the energetic, vibrant and colourful show, celebrating all forms of dance from classical ballet to high-octane street dance.

Lower Sixth girls developing the power to lead

Girls in the Lower Sixth recently had the chance to develop their power to lead in the Wycombe Abbey Leadership Summit with John Hampden Grammar School. Teamwork, resilience, self-reliance and leadership were all tested over the two-day event, which forms part of the School's Sixth Form enrichment programme. Every girl was given the opportunity to take the lead on at least one practical task, which ranged from crossing imaginary rivers with planks and barrels to planning a response to a forest fire.



Mental Health Awareness Week

Pupils and staff came together in May to raise awareness and learn more about mental health as part of the nationwide Mental Health Awareness Week. This year's theme was stress and the girls looked at how we define what it is, how to spot signs that we or our friends may be suffering and how and where to ask for help if we need it. Activities ran throughout the week to encourage girls and staff to take a break and come together to have fun and relax. Highlights included mindful colouring sessions and an evening spent with jigsaw puzzles. The librarians also set up lemonade teas for the Fifth and Sixth Form girls to encourage them to take a break from revision.

Oxbridge Offers and US University offers

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. We anticipate eight girls will take up their US places in 2018.

Royal Wedding Celebrations

A party to celebrate the wedding of the year took place to mark Prince Harry's nuptials to Meghan Markle in May. A huge outdoor screen, wedding picnic and bunting galore contributed to a very festive occasion for the whole Wycombe Abbey community. The fun continued into the evening, with an outdoor cinema and cocktails completing a perfect summer's day.

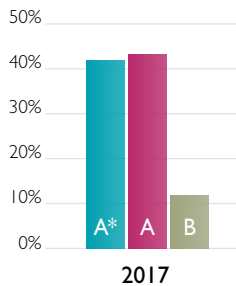


Outstanding Examination Results

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.

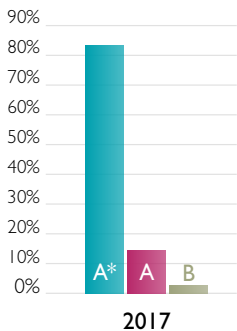
A level results

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.





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