



WYCOMBE ABBAY



Open Morning

SATURDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

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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
 - 11:15am: Refreshments in the Davies Sports Centre or The Courtyard with the opportunity to talk to senior staff
 - 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:

Boarding hub

Discuss the benefits of boarding with our pastoral staff in The Courtyard.

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 team in training as well as an aqua aerobics display. You're also welcome to join in with our Lacrosse workshop on the outdoor pitch.

Music

Observe a string workshop in Fisher Library, discover our rock bands in Big School and hear our organists in Chapel.

Science

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

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

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

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

Art

View the girls' A level and GCSE pieces and sketchbooks.

Chapel

Meet our Chaplain, the Rev'd Penny Nash and hear our organists play in the Chapel.

Classics

Try our language and mythology quiz in classroom T5.

Computer Science

Explore computers, cyphers and cryptography technologies in CRI.

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 rehearsal for the upcoming Twelfth Night performance in the Carrington Room.

English

Get involved in magnetic poetry under the oldest tree in the School on Lavinia Way.

Geography

Create edible landforms to demonstrate geographical processes and formations in classroom W1.

Health and Wellbeing

Meet our nursing team, school counsellor and Wellbeing teacher. Get involved in activities in the Health and Wellbeing Centre.

History

Join a medieval history fair in classroom T6.

History of Art

Play art history games such as 'What do you meme?' in classroom T9.

Mathematics

Take part in logic puzzles, interactive games and pirate problems in classroom T7.

Modern Languages

Try our music quiz in Language Lab A.

Nutrition

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

Religious Studies

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

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



Mount Kilimanjaro climb

A team of seven intrepid UVs spent part of their summer holiday in Tanzania climbing the tallest freestanding mountain in the world, Mount Kilimanjaro (5895m), in aid of the Nasio Trust. On summit night, after six days of hard walking through a mixture of thick rainforest and dry windy plains, camping at 4673m, the girls were woken to start their final ascent at 12 midnight. After completing the climb they headed off to the Nasio Trust charity site in Kenya to see how the £13,000 raised between them was to be used.

Peru Biology expedition

During the summer holidays 17 girls spent ten days living on a boat on the Peruvian Amazon where they helped with the ongoing monitoring of the recovery of wildlife in the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve. Trips were also arranged to an animal orphanage, a manatee rescue centre and a floating market, all giving different views about the importance of the conservation work they were undertaking.



World Refugee Day

Our Global Opportunities Officers used World Refugee Day in June to help raise awareness of the lives of refugees. Artist Teresa Albor held a workshop called 'The Things We Leave Behind' in which girls could explore real items left behind by refugees on the shores of Greece and in a Serbian camp. They also heard from Aster, an asylum seeker from Eritrea, who shared her life experiences and anecdotes, having had fled from religious persecution.

LV Plays

In House groups, LV girls are given a year-long project: to write and produce a play using one of two pieces provided as stimulus. Each production provided imaginative and thought-provoking pieces, ranging from modern takes on Sleeping Beauty and Milton's Paradise Lost to a moving account of passengers on a tube in the face of death.



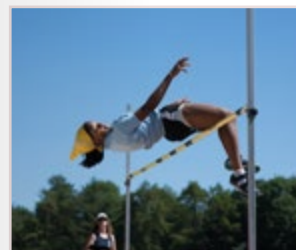
Gold Duke of Edinburgh award

Seven UVI girls were invited to Buckingham Palace to receive their Gold Award, having in June completed twelve months of volunteering, physical activity and skills, a four-day expedition and a week's residential activity. The latest cohort has undertaken a variety of activities from National Trust conservation to helping disabled children as part of their residential requirement. There was also a successful expedition to the hot and dry Yorkshire dales this July.



Singapore Young Leaders' Summit

Three Wycombe Abbey girls teamed up with three Harrow boys to represent the UK at the Asia-Pacific Young Leaders Summit in Singapore, a programme designed to provide pupils from a variety of different countries access to a broader perspective of views, across a multitude of contemporary topics and themes. The theme for this year's summit was 'IGNITE: Rekindling our Dreams'. The UK team undertook a number of activities, including producing and presenting a poster, which won Outstanding Poster Presentation Award at the Closing Ceremony, as well as preparing components for a Cultural Exhibition and Cultural Performance. The girls also met the President of Singapore and other global leaders during the trip.



Sport

Lexi and Mia (LVI) toured the USA with the England U19 Lacrosse squad during the summer. The girls competed against school and club teams as well as taking part in a training camp before the Capital Cup Tournament, reaching the semi-final. In Athletics, Temi (LVI) reached 1st place for the High Jump at the English Schools Track and Field Championships in July, a huge feat at this national level.

GlastonAbbey

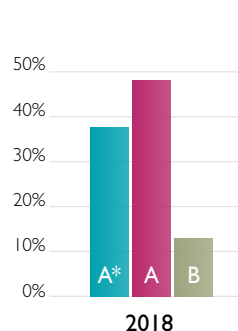
Wycombe Abbey's very own rock concert took place on a beautiful midsummer's evening at the end of June. The whole school was out in force and five bands, Area 51, Ahara, Apollo, Eureka and Pandilla, played sets on a large outdoor professional stage located in the grounds. The atmosphere was further enhanced with a great array of delicious festival-style food, drink and merchandise stalls and an enthusiastic audience of friends, family and staff.



Outstanding Examination Results

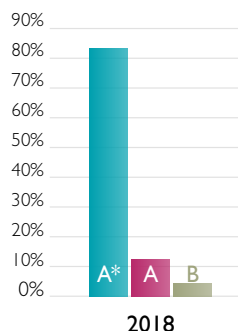
A level results

In 2017-2018, 37% of our A level grades were awarded an A* and 84% of entries were A*-A.



GCSE Results

In 2017-2018, 95.23% of all grades were A*-A (grade 7-9) and 84% received A* (grade 8-9).



A new grading system was introduced this year with numbers now replacing letters. According to the Joint Council for Qualifications, 20.5% of all entries were graded 7 to 9, while just 4.3% of entries were awarded a 9.

University Destinations 2018

Our leavers go on to study subjects as diverse as Architecture, Economics and Biomedical Sciences at Oxbridge and Russell Group universities in the UK and an increasing number of universities in the US, such as Yale, USC and UPenn. In 2018, ten girls went on to read Medicine/Veterinary Medicine, three to read Law and 12 will begin courses in Sciences and Engineering. 28 girls have accepted places at Oxford and Cambridge this year.

UK	
University of Bath	London College of Fashion
University of Cambridge	London School of Economics and Political Science
The Courtauld Institute of Art	The University Manchester
Durham University	Newcastle University
The University of Edinburgh	University of Nottingham
University of Exeter	University of Oxford
Imperial College London	University of St Andrews
King's College London	University of the Arts London
University of Leeds	University College London
	University of Warwick

US	
Johns Hopkins University	Trinity College (Connecticut)
University of Pennsylvania	Tufts University
University of California, Santa Barbara	University of Southern California
	Yale University

Rest of the world	
Leiden University (Netherlands)	Trinity College Dublin (Ireland)



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 Morning	9 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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