



**NORTHWOOD
COLLEGE**
FOR GIRLS

GDST
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

From the Head
Mrs Rebecca Brown MSt, MA (Oxon)

12 December 2024

Dear Parents,

You will recall that back in October, we received a routine visit from the Independent Schools Inspectorate. We received the final report this morning and are now in a position to share the findings.

We are delighted to say that the inspectors were highly impressed with the teaching and learning, co-curricular and pastoral provision in our school. Highlights from their report include:

Academic

- Pupils have a wide range of opportunities to develop their skills across all curriculum areas. They make good progress from their individual starting points and attain highly at GCSE and A level.
- The curriculum has relevance, depth and breadth and effectively extends pupils' knowledge and understanding across the required areas of learning.
- Teachers are knowledgeable within their subject areas. Subject teachers demonstrate enthusiasm for their subject, which stimulates curiosity and pupils' self-motivation.

Pastoral

- Pastoral leaders work closely with academic leaders so that individual pupils' progress is considered in the context of their wellbeing.
- Leaders and staff help pupils feel valued. They focus on character education as well as academic learning.
- Leaders and staff set high expectations and model mutual respect. This is exemplified in the positive interactions between staff and pupils.
- Behaviour throughout the school is conducive to positive learning. Pupils listen attentively in lessons.

Co-curricular

- Pupils are offered a wide range of activities, including the literary society, film club, the poetry hub, or beginners Greek. Senior pupils lead clubs, societies, and enrichment activities for younger pupils.
- Musical groups abound with choirs, small ensembles, and whole school orchestras as well as school concerts, musicals, and dramatic performances.
- Pupils play a wide range of competitive sports for enjoyment. Pupils have been successful both locally and nationally.

INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

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The Girls' Day School Trust is a limited company registered in England whose registered number is 6400 and whose registered office is 10 Bressenden Place, London SW1E 5DH

GDST

Safeguarding, Leadership and Management

- Leaders provide thorough support for pupils' academic and personal development.
- Safeguarding is effective. Staff are trained in safeguarding procedures and understand that safeguarding is the responsibility of all staff.
- Safeguarding Leads work to ensure that pupils have appropriate support. Pupils know that there are staff members that they can turn to, should they wish to talk. Regular training ensures they are enabled to carry out their work in keeping with the latest guidance.
- Pastoral and academic leaders meet regularly to ensure that pupils are well cared for.

Many more highlights can be found via the link below, including discussion of our approach to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI), finance and careers education.

We always welcome scrutiny and see such inspection visits as a golden opportunity to listen, reflect and grow. You will note that the standard related to student safety was not met; this was due to the inspection team finding four internal doors open, which should have been locked shut. Whilst we received much positive feedback regarding Leadership and Management, one 'unmet' element in the report will automatically result in the standard related to Leadership and Management not being met.

The safeguarding of our pupils is our first priority and in each case, the door was locked and provision put in place to ensure future security. This was in place before the inspectors left the school at the end of their visit.

In the weeks since, all colleagues have undertaken door security training and the school has undergone a full successful external health and safety audit. I am confident that Northwood College is a safe and secure environment for our children and look forward to welcoming the inspectors back in due course, to check the doors in question.

I do want to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your support of our school. I was thrilled with the outcome of the parent and student questionnaires and delighted to see the way that your daughters proudly shared their love for their school, their intellect and their indomitable NWC character in their observed lessons and many meetings with the inspection team. I also want to thank my amazing team of staff, who work tirelessly to ensure that our girls always come first. To read more about our ISI Report, please visit: [ISI REPORT](#).

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Rebecca Brown
Head