



FROM THE HEADTEACHER

"We share a collective responsibility for ensuring that every student does as well as she possibly can."

"We believe that by providing the best possible care, guidance and support for our students' academic and pastoral needs, every girl is enabled to be her best."

Dear Parents and Carers,

Here at the Ursuline we are very proud of our achievements and our strong sense of community and identity based on the charism of St Angela Merici.

We aim to develop confident and aspirational young women who are willing and able to seize new opportunities. An Ursuline student is: committed to her faith. She is kind, forgiving, generous of spirit and perseveres. She is enterprising, respectful of others, committed to developing her leadership skills and is an active member of her school and local community.

There has been an Ursuline School here in Wimbledon for 125 years and we are part of a worldwide network of Ursuline schools. As such we are proud to be providers of a modern global education focused on: Academic excellence, service in the spirit of St Angela Merici, addressing individual needs and developing young women as leaders.

We have an engaging faith development programme led by our Chaplain. Excellent teaching is in place with outstanding opportunities for students to develop their skills. We offer a wide-ranging enrichment programme in Arts, Sports, Languages and Culture. We have a comprehensive student leadership programme with outstanding links with schools across the world.

Our parents and alumnae are fundamental to the success of all our students. Our strong partnership with parents ensures the highest standards of achievement and personal development.

We look forward to welcoming you at our Open Evening and Open Mornings.

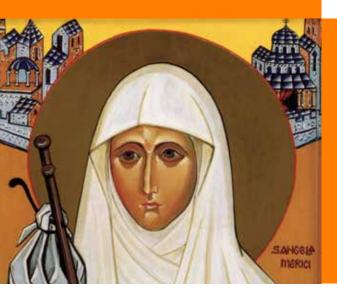
Yours Sincerely,

Julia Waters

Julia Waters BSc (Hons) MA Headteacher

OUR ETHOS

Serviam



MISSION

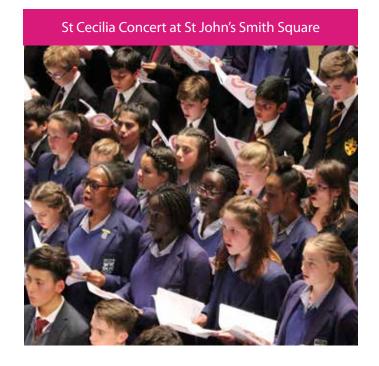
Inspired by the life and work of Saint Angela Merici, our Ursuline school commits itself to education for tomorrow's world within the dynamic tradition of Catholic belief and practice. As a Christian community, characterised by a spirit of respect, trust and joy, we promote excellence in every aspect of life, thereby fully developing each individual.

"Do something, get moving. Be confident, risk new things, stick with it and then be ready for big surprises!"

St Angela

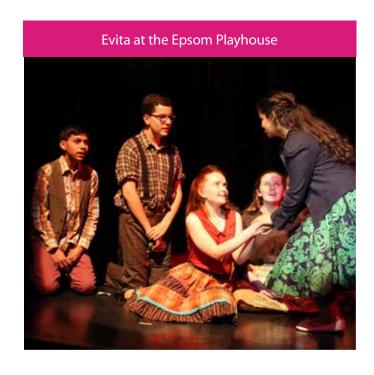
AIMS

- Set standards of excellence in teaching and learning and to provide a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum
- Develop personal qualities of understanding of self and others, self-discipline and motivation, responsibility, maturity, creative freedom and integrity
- Foster an attitude of respect for all regardless of age, race, colour, creed or gender
- Build peace, to promote justice, social concern and, through the celebration of difference, the equality of all people
- Widen horizons, to encourage a sense of commitment and service to the wider world, and to enable each one to go on learning and changing all through life









125TH ANNIVERSARY

Celebrate

"The anniversary Mass at Westminster Cathedral was a great way for the whole school to come together, I learnt so much about the school's history- seeing the Ursuline Sisters and past staff."

Student



Catholic Education; Extraordinary Women

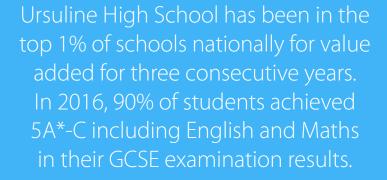
This year we have celebrated 125 years of outstanding catholic education for girls – an incredible legacy.

In school we have celebrated with a whole school mission with the *Sion Community*, a whole school Mass at *Westminster Cathedral*, a *Women of Faith; Leading the Change* student conference in Westminster, a Civic Reception at the *House of Lords*, hosted by Baroness McDonagh, an evening with Alumnae and an *International Women's Day* event for all students. We also celebrated with *Wimbledon College*, jointly staging a St Cecilia's Day Concert at the imposing *St John Smith's Square* and a production of *Evita* at the *Epsom Playhouse*.



CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Achieve





At the Ursuline, we celebrate every student's individual achievements. We also acknowledge and reward excellence in all areas of school life: academic standards, sport, music, drama and service in the spirit of Serviam.

Every year a student in each year group is awarded the Student of the Year Award for academic excellence and there are prizes in every subject. Our most prestigious award is the Serviam Award, which is presented to the student who has best used her gifts and talents for the benefit of others.

Ursuline High School loves to reward success, we have celebration events for every year group where students are commended individually.



TEACHING AND LEARNING

Inspire

At the Ursuline we set standards of excellence in teaching and learning to provide a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum.



Academic standards and progress are exemplary at every stage. Teachers have high expectations and challenge students to attain the highest standards. We are proud of their achievements.

At Ursuline High School, we aim to provide excellent teaching and a personalised education within an environment of exemplary behaviour and high standards. We offer a diverse and expert teaching staff of highly motivated professionals who share determination to do the best for every student.

In all lessons, we aim to develop the students' skills with particular focus on challenge and assessment for learning. Student feedback is really important to us, to support this, Learning Conferences are organised throughout the year for all year groups, according to their needs. This year conferences have primarily focused on developing study skills, revision techniques, memory and preparing for examinations.



"Innovation is always evidence based". Teacher

Teacher development is at the heart of all we do. Teachers are engaged in subject specific professional development and National Qualifications in leadership at middle and senior level. Teachers work with professionals from a range of schools (including primary schools), to ensure the highest standards and best practise.

In a world that is rapidly changing, our outward looking approach and continuous innovation in teaching enables us to deliver a modern, global education which prepares our students to take their place as successful young women.



INDIVIDUAL LEARNING NEEDS

Support

"My teaching assistant is great, she will explain things again and again until she's sure I understand, it's much easier to learn when I'm getting the extra time I need."

Student

LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

The school has a designated teacher for children who are in the care of their Local Authority. They work in partnership with the child's social worker to produce a Personal Education Plan (PEP) to ensure that educational and social needs are met.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

At the Ursuline we aim to cater for the individual learning needs of all students in line with the new Code of Practise. The students identified with additional needs are placed on the Learning Support register at one of two levels: Statement of Special Educational Needs/Educational Health Care Plan or Student with Additional Needs.

There are four reasons for being placed on the SEN Register;

- 1. Communication and interaction
- 2. Cognition and learning
- 3. Social, mental and emotional health
- 4. Sensory and/or physical

Students who have a Statement of EHCP receive extra support and guidance in some of their lessons from Teaching Assistants who work in partnership with the subject teacher to help students to access the curriculum. Where appropriate, students may also be withdrawn from some lessons for one to one or small group support on, for example, reading and writing skills, organisational skills and raising self-esteem. All students on the register have an SEN profile to inform all subject teachers of the specific learning challenges so that they can differentiate their work accordingly. Extra support is given to students as deemed necessary and the progress of these students is co-ordinated and monitored by the Special Educational Needs

Co-ordinator (SENCO).

Please see 'Our Local Offer' on our website for further information. Students on the Special Educational Needs register may also need assessment and support from other professionals including the Educational Psychologist, the Learning and Behaviour team and the Social Inclusion Manager. Once again, these referrals are managed by the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator.

PRIMARY SCHOOL LEAVERS

At the end of Year 6, students on the SEN Register in their primary schools may be asked to complete a diagnostic test to enable us to provide targeted support upon their arrival in Year 7.

This support may include reading intervention to raise their reading age, enabling them to access National Curriculum tests, and support with numeracy to embed basic numeracy skills.

CURRICULUM

Wisdom

KEY STAGE 3 CURRICULUM GROUP	YEAR	
Each period is 50 mins	7	8
English	4	4
Mathematics	4	4
Science	4	4
Religious Education	2	2
Computing	1	1
Physical Education	2	2
Modern Foreign Languages		
French	2	1
German & Spanish		2
Design Technology		1
Textiles	1	
Food Technology		1
Art	1	1
Drama	1	1
Music	1	1
Geography	2	2
History	2	2
Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship	1	1



SUPPORTING PARTICULAR INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS AND CLASSES

Every student is set a minimum target standard in each of their subjects. This grade is based on prior attainment at the start of each Key Stage. In the absence of prior attainment data, baseline tests are used to determine targets.

Termly reports to parents monitor achievement, progress and effort.

Parents can access their daughter's progress report every two weeks using their password to the school e-Portal, updated half termly.

Regular academic monitoring and guidance by Form Teachers, Subject Teachers, Heads of Department and Heads of Year support students to stay on track.

TAILORING THE CURRICULUM	YEAR 7	YEAR 8
Catch Up Maths	YES	YES
Reading Intervention	YES	YES
Dyslexia support for students	YES	YES
Small group and one to one support in English, Maths and Science	YES	YES
'Stretch and Challenge'	YES	YES

"We get so many opportunities to fulfil our potential in and outside the classroom".

Student

Students are grouped according to prior attainment in English, French and Mathematics. In Science this occurs in Year 8 onwards.

In the Foundation subjects students are taught in mixed ability groups, teachers identify groups of individuals who need additional or different activities to challenge and aid learning.

The Learning Support staff work closely with Subject Teachers to provide extra support for students.

The reading intervention programme helps the development of reading accuracy, fluency and comprehension.

Homework clubs are available after school.

Lunchtime clubs for vulnerable students are available to enhance social skills and inclusion.

Student profiles are used to inform all staff of specific student strengths/weaknesses and an understanding of any learning barriers.

Close working relationships between home and school are fostered through regular communication.

Stretch and Challenge Programme is a specific programme tailored for girls in years 7-11 whose thirst for learning extends beyond the extensive offers of school life.

KEY STAGE 4 OPTIONAL SUBJECTS		Humanities	GCSE Geography GCSE History
Arts	GCSE Art & Design GCSE Drama & Theatre Studies GCSE Music GCSE Art Textiles	Modern Foreign Languages	GCSE French GCSE German GCSE Spanish
Design Technology	GCSE Design Technology	Vocational Courses	CACHE Level 2 in Child
Health & Well Being	GCSE Physical Education GCSE Business Studies GCSE Food & Nutrition		Development and Care Food & Catering (BTEC) Health and Fitness (vcert)

Every year the curriculum is revised to ensure the needs of all students are met.

ENRICHMENT

Widen Horizons

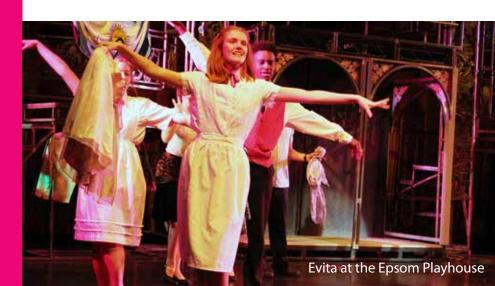
We publish our annual programme on our website and update this termly. Some of the enrichment activities at KS3 and KS4 include:

- Choir and Orchestra
- STEM Club / Crest Awards in Science
- School productions such as Evita and upcoming Beauty and the Beast
- Athletics
- Rock climbing
- A range of residential trips (such as Rome, Ireland Surf Trip and Normandy)
- Wimbledon Ball Girls
- Micro-bot Programming
- Writers' Circle (Creative Writing)
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Philanthropy project

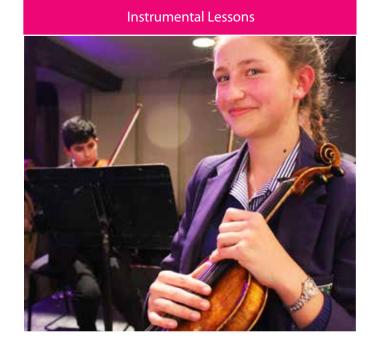


Joining in the enrichment activities is part of the ethos of the Ursuline. The more your daughter participates and gives of herself, the happier and more successful she will be at school. Whatever your daughter's interests, she will find the opportunity to develop her talents and confidence through our Ursuline Enrichment programme.

Additionally, being involved in these activities will contribute to the schools' house system and earn points towards the house cup. We believe that residential trips truly add to a students life. Our expectation is that all student's will take part in an activity outside of the classroom. These experiences will enrich their lives, improve their skills and help them to enjoy school life to the full.











HOUSE SYSTEM

Competition

St Angela Red

St Bernadette Purple

St Catherine *Green*

St Francis Orange

St Margaret *Pink*

St Teresa Yellow

St Ursula Blue



There are 7 houses, each with a house colour which appears on the logo of the PE Kit shirt and on the House Captain's badge. Each form in Key Stage 3 nominates two House Captains who have roles and responsibilities for promoting and organising inter-form events with staff. House captains receive the help and guidance of Sixth Form House Prefects and the School's House System Director.

Two Inter-House events will run every half term, one selected Inter-House Sport at lunchtimes and one other event within a different area of the curriculum. Students can earn points within a different area of the curriculum. Students can earn points for their house in a variety of events. Events such as; sports, art competitions. Inter-House debating competitions are held at the end of the year. The House with the highest total of points at the end of the year will be crowned House Champions at the Inter-House finale which is on Sports Day. The House information boards have information on events and an up to date score for House points.

OUR FACILITIES

Opportunity

"We are very proud of the exceptional facilities available for students to enjoy all aspects of their learning."

Governor



From specialist rooms for Food Technology lessons to computer rooms for ICT, and tranquil quad area (with outdoor seating) for chatting with friends at break-time, we have a campus which facilitates the optimum environment for learning.

We have a school supported tablet programme, to assist students with learning at school and at home. There is also a dedicated Learning Resource Centre (LRC) designed to further support students. It has well stocked bookshelves- with over 12,000 books to choose from. Our recently refurbished St Angela's Centre houses all of our drama, art and music rooms, with an impressive gallery.

URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL PLAYING FIELDS at Morley Park

Our brand new playing fields and pavilion at Morley Park are just a short walk from the school grounds and will be available to students (for use during P.E. lessons and other sporting activities) from September 2017. The facilities will include football pitches, changing rooms and an indoor space for wet weather conditions. We are looking forward to expanding our sport offering (to include cricket), They are a wonderful addition to the school facilities.



COMMUNITY

Invite and Welcome



OUR LINKS

We are continuously forging and embedding links in the local, national and international communities

- We have an established joint Sixth Form with Wimbledon College
- We have a special relationship with St Philomena's called the Avila Partnership
- Our Headteacher is the Executive Headteacher at Sacred Heart Primary School
- We co-lead Teach Wimbledon ir partnership with Roehampton University in training teachers
- We work collaboratively with our Merton Catholic Schools on e.g. transition issues and the curriculum
- We have links with a number of community organisations and schools including the Polish Saturday School and Mulberry School

Our motto, Serviam - *I will serve*, is at the heart of our school ethos and we are strongly committed to promoting a culturally inclusive school environment through our ethos, curriculum, school visits and relationships with parents and links with partners in the local and global community. All groups of students are expected to participate. Robust systems are in place to ensure that the needs of the students from all backgrounds are met.

Performances and events such as the school production, the St Cecilia Concert, Art Exhibitions and Multicultural Evening provide opportunities for parents and students to celebrate both the arts and our diverse community.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Aspire



"Having the opportunity to be a sports leader has improved my self confidence and it's a brilliant skill to add to my CV when I'm older."

Student



STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

We trust and listen to our students, as well as implementing their ideas. Students can train as action researchers, curriculum leaders, prefects and school council representatives.

Our student leadership programme consists of students working in teams on a number of projects across the school linked to the priorities in the school improvement plan.

Student implemented projects include

- Tablet devices for Year 7 students
- Arts Exhibition
- Improvement in lunch provision
- The production of the school newsletter
- Training of student sports leaders (working with primary children in the borough)

Working in teams helps students develop skills in resilience, planning, organisation, coordination, problem solving and enterprise. The success of the programme is reflected by the increasing number of students applying to be student leaders.

In the Sixth Form the Head Girl team act as ambassadors speaking at a range of events. They also lead prefects and support students across the school in their own personally devised project.



FAITH

All of One Heart

Our Chaplain supports students in developing their faith. Each student is encouraged to use their talent, whether it is in music, drama, dance or ICT, to help others reflect and pray. Celebratory Masses and Advent Services are held as well as special services for Christmas, Holy Week and Ash Wednesday.

There are also opportunities for students to attend national events and conferences, and to participate in faith forming activities together with students from other Ursuline schools. Each year group takes part in a retreat day, in which different themes are developed in relation to personal development and faith. Speakers are invited to share their experiences.

Students across the school are actively involved in supporting charities. All Year 8 students participate in a Youth Philanthropy Project and the winning group secures £1,500 for a local charity. Year 9 students take part in Generations Question Together events, whilst others give up their time to run Silver Surfer IT sessions and lead activities in primary schools.

Last year, students raised money for a host of charities and causes including *Save the Children*, *Food Bank*, *Lunchbowl Network*, *Grenfell Tower*, *Young Roots*, *Spear London* and *FORJimmy*. Students and staff members annually take part in the *Race for Life* supporting *Cancer Research UK*.

Students are encouraged to appreciate diversity and to build on the Gospel values of love, care, justice, peace, solidarity and respect.





PASTORAL CARE

Understanding

Every young woman receives the highest possible standards of care, guidance and support as she moves through the school.

Tutors, Heads of Year and our Pastoral Support Assistants are foremost in supporting the personal development of your daughter. Our aim is for each student to achieve her full potential in school.

We also provide access to specialist facilities and staff to support students in need. Students have access to a counsellor, school nurse and mentors who are trained in bereavement, health concerns, dealing with friendship issues and much more.

We also run a series of Parenting Support workshops focusing on raising girls, personal relationships, emotional health and managing stress at examination time.

"The Ursuline really encourages us to become strong, independent women.

Staff are concerned with developing and caring for the whole person as well as achieving the best academic results".

Student

INTERNATIONAL

The Wider World

"The international dimension in education is an integral part of our school ethos and teaching and learning philosophy."

Teacher



RESIDENTIAL TRIPS AND EXCHANGE VISITS

Year 7 & 8: Normandy

Year 9: Ypres, Belgium

Year 9 & 10: Rome, Bayonne, Berlin, Dallas and Valkenburg, Holland

New York and China Trips for KS4 & KS5

Opportunities to take a work placement abroad at KS5 if students choose to continue with French, German or Spanish at A Level.

We celebrate our rich and diverse community through a range of events throughout the year and are proud to continue to be awarded International School status by the *British Council*.

Over the past few years we have further strengthened our links with the global community and our students have taken part in cultural exchanges around the world. We currently have links with schools in the USA, Poland, France, and *The German School* in Richmond. Students also enhance their language learning by building friendships with pen pals from Germany, France and Spain.

A variety of international visits support students in specific curriculum areas, making a crucial link between the classroom and the outside world.

EXTENDED LEARNING

Network

"Extended learning encourages students to develop a sense of commitment and service to the wider world and to install a thirst for learning all through life."

Parent

CONFERENCES

CORPORATE VISITS AND EXTENDED PROJECTS

Extended learning enables all our students to understand the relevance of what they learn in their lessons to their future and gives them the knowledge, skills and motivation to succeed. Our aim is that students leave the Ursuline as young women who have the confidence, skills, attitude and knowledge for success. Learning from female role models, including our amazing alumnae and professionals from all walks of life, develops students' skills for employment and raises their aspirations.

Extended Learning is achieved by providing opportunities and enrichment across the curriculum and year groups through a range of strategies from conferences in school and elsewhere, corporate visits, speakers in school and our SERVIAM and careers programmes. Students also hugely benefit from the Ursuline's extensive partnerships with organisations such as the Women of Achievement Ambassadors Programme, Covent Garden London, Wimbledon Bookfest and TEAM (Global).

CAREERS NETWORKING, PANELS AND SEMINARS

Across this programme, students engage with professionals from diverse organisations; lawyers, doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, scientists, women from business and banking, engineers, journalists from TV and print media and many more.



PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

Collaboration

"The information sessions at the Ursuline have really made me step back and see what my daughter's strengths are and harness them!"

Parent



'Parenting sessions helped us be more calm; and have more positive and happy moments!' Parent

At the Ursuline High School there are a number of ways in which we engage parents in supporting their daughters to develop into successful young women. Parents are given many opportunities over the year to meet with their daughters' teachers and tutors to discuss their progress. We also provide opportunities for parents to learn more about the world their daughters live in through information evenings, and specialist sessions on issues such as online safety and mental health. Our active Parents' Association supports the school in raising additional funds, supporting events and building community.

STUDENT VOICE

Listening

"Being on the School Council, I have developed my public speaking skills and grown in my ability to listen to others' ideas and opinions." Student

Students need to be empowered to propose and develop enterprising ideas to support the learning of all. As advocates for their own and others' needs, students can increase their confidence and motivation and develop their leadership skills.

Our elected School Council plays an extremely active part in school life. It is the responsibility of the Council to initiate ideas to support students' well-being and learning, respond to proposals from the Senior Leadership Team and raise issues and concerns. School Councillors also interview teaching candidates and represent the school at different events. Two members are elected to stand for the *Merton Youth Parliament*. Current School Council projects include a positive mental health campaign in all years, the *Terratrees* UHS Goes Green project and supporting fundraising across the school for the year's school council charity *The Lunchbowl Network* in the Kibera Slum, Kenya.



ADVICE FROM YEAR 7

Experience

"Always accept who people are because at Ursuline everyone is accepted no matter what faith or background you are from."

"Be organised with your things and always remember to pack your school bag the night before."

"Make sure you remember to write your homework down in your diary, otherwise you won't remember to do it and you'll get a detention!."

"You don't need to be afraid to ask someone older than you if you get lost finding your way around school (even if she/he is not a teacher), because they'll always show you where to go."



SIXTH FORM

vibrant, diverse and high achieving learning environment. We combine the enjoyment of academic study and enrichment activities."

Deputy Head

"Ursuline Sixth Form stands out as a

Students actively contribute to the life of the school and are invited to participate in leadership training in school council, chaplaincy programmes and community service. This programme of enrichment includes: Science Gold Crest Awards: Cannon of English; Duke of Edinburgh; Art Portfolio and World Religions. There are many opportunities for travel through cultural enrichment trips and language exchange programmes.



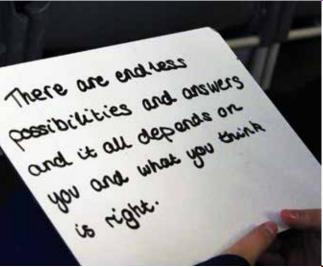
WORK OPPORTUNITIES

Ursuline Sixth Form prepares students for university and for long term career progression by supporting and developing independent learning skills, we also provide specialist support in order to gain places on apprenticeship programmes.

The Sixth Form offers a programme for those students applying for Russell Group universities including Oxford and Cambridge Universities. We have outstanding careers provision including two dedicated Oxbridge Co-ordinators and a Medical Co-ordinator, who support the students through the application and interview process. Students choose a wide range of courses from the medical, biological and physical sciences, business, social science, the humanities, computing.

CAREERS

Networking



"At the Ursuline we are conscious that a student needs more than just good examination results to be successful in adult life. This is now more important than ever."

Form Tutor

ADVICE

The school offers a structured programme of career advice at each stage of the students' development delivered through our Personal and Social Health Education programme. We have a careers team based in the library to also offer guidance. We aim to create pathways for each student allowing for flexibility, market forces and the employer demands of the economy.

There is independent advice which is readily accessible to parents. Advice on apprenticeships is given by an independent consultant. We invite career speakers in to address the students each term on a range of career pathways.

EMPLOYABILITY

There is an emphasis on "employability skills" alongside good technical understanding and subject knowledge, which every student should develop to be prepared for the workplace. We build on students' teamwork, communication, investigative and adaptability skills whilst teaching them the time management skills in which to effectively utilise these.





"Career networking opportunities in Year 9 were really beneficial, they gave me the opportunity to ask questions to people already in the industries, which has helped while I've been thinking about what career I want to be in when I'm older." Student

The basic curriculum is the foundation, followed by contact with the employers e.g. networking in Year 9 and work experience in Year 11. Each pupil is offered an individual career advice appointment in Year 11 and in Year 10 preparation is made to create a more formative pathway for either Sixth Form, college or apprenticeship.

There is a well resourced career library in the LRC and career advisors for assistance. Students also work closely with employers for example through our Careers Networking Days and Work Experience. We strongly encourage students to consider STEM pathways through extra curricular clubs, applications for scholarships e.g. *Arkwright* and student conferences.

