



WOODFORD COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

The Classics Department

Woodford County High School is an 11-18 selective girls' community school. It is set in attractive grounds and offers a very pleasant and friendly working environment. Hitherto a four form of entry school (4fe), we took our first 6fe cohort into Year 7 in September 2016. Building work associated with the school's expansion was completed for use this past September – one of many exciting developments as the school approaches its centenary (2019).

The Classics Department is a very strong department with consistently outstanding results and good numbers at all Key Stages. It has benefited from a very effective collaborative approach and a large collection of excellent teaching resources. There are currently three members of staff: two specialist and one non-specialist. Under current arrangements Latin is taught to three out of the six forms for the first three years, using the 'Cambridge Latin Course'. Latin is one of the general options from Year 10 from which it is compulsory to choose one language, and possible to choose two. There is usually a good take-up for A Level. There are currently 8 students in our Year 12 Latin set and 11 in Year 13. There is no setting in the department. All pupils are taught in form or option groups.

Classical Civilisation is also a popular subject at school and is offered both at GCSE and A Level. There are currently 7 students studying the subject in Year 12 and 14 in Year 13. Entry Level Classical Greek is also offered as an after-school enrichment subject for students in Year 10 and has also proved to be very popular.

We run annual visits abroad to Rome, Greece and the Bay of Naples for the all students studying Classical subjects in Years 10-13. Closer to home, students have the opportunity to take part in a range of activities including theatre trips, a mentoring scheme, the biannual Classics play in our Greek Theatre, our very own Mini Library of Alexandria, and Speech Days in central London.

The Classics Department actively aim to bring the Classical subjects alive and celebrate their relevance, especially for students who have no previous experience of them. As a department we achieve this through a combination of dynamic and enthusiastic teaching, and also by exposing students to a broad range of experiences that will offer them fresh and engaging perspectives of the ancient world.

