



GENERAL INFORMATION

Palmers Green High School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. All successful candidates will be required to undertake a criminal record check via the DBS. The School will also undertake checks with past employers.

Palmers Green High School is an independent day school with approximately 300 girls, aged 3 to 16. In November 2011 the School's ISI inspection report graded the School as excellent/outstanding in all aspects for the main school and EYFS. The School is ranked in the top five of The Sunday Times national league table for small independent schools.

The school was founded in 1905 by Miss Alice Hum, a Quaker, and the ideas of integrity and care implicit in the founding philosophy have been maintained in the face of changing standards in society. The School is well respected in the area and the Headmistress is an accredited member of the Girls' Schools' Association.

The School provides a warm and stimulating environment, in which high academic achievement and broad personal development go hand in hand. One of its main strengths and attractions to parents is its 'one school' ethos, which ensures a smooth transition for pupils as they proceed from the Lower School to the Senior School. However, a number of new pupils do join the Senior School following the 11+ Entrance Examinations. The average teaching group size in the Senior School is 12 pupils. Departments are able to choose to teach pupils in either mixed ability groups or subject-specific sets. The maximum class size in Reception – Year 6 (known as the Lower School) is 24 pupils but for specialist subjects pupils are usually taught in half-class groups unless there are two specialist teachers assigned to a class.

A broad programme of extra-curricular activities enriches our ethnically diverse school community. Pupils are encouraged to raise money for charity and be involved in local community service projects. They have opportunities to go abroad on study visits as well as taking part in field studies, work experience placements and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

LOCATION AND FACILITIES

The School occupies a compact site in a residential area, Winchmore Hill, a leafy and pleasant suburb in the London Borough of Enfield. It is within easy reach of railway, tube and bus routes. The School makes use of the close proximity of various parks and leisure centres, and London's concert halls, theatres, museums and galleries are easily accessible.

In recent years there have been many modifications and extensions to the school buildings, which provide light, modern and flexible accommodation to support the changing needs of the curriculum. In 2012 the new Elizabeth Smith Hall was opened by a former pupil, the ballerina Marion Tate. The hall provides excellent facilities for hosting seminars and lectures, as well as being an excellent, air-conditioned environment in which pupils sit public examinations – and the Prep Department have their weekly assemblies in there. Most classrooms have been enhanced through the installation of “teaching walls” with integrated interactive digital equipment. In addition, the multi-purpose school hall has been enhanced by donations from the Parents and Friends Association, including a modern lighting and sound system.

GENERAL ACADEMIC INFORMATION

The School has an outstanding record of academic success in public examinations. Entry to the school at all levels is by assessment and interview. In recent years the School has developed an outstanding record of academic success in public examinations. In the Senior School pupils take up to 11 GCSEs with the best mathematicians also taking the OCR Free-Standing Mathematics Qualification ‘Additional Maths’. Over the last five years 72% of GCSE/IGCSE grades were A* or A grades.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

These will be in accordance with the School's contract. The basic salary will be in accordance with PGHS Pay Scales and be determined by qualifications and experience. Occasionally the governors will grant a percentage salary increase above the national agreement.

THE PROCESS

Candidates are asked to complete all sections of the Application Form, which can be downloaded from the website. Please note that for teaching posts Section 7 is expected to be written as a formal letter to the Headmistress.

March 2017