



# Dr Challoner's High School

Aspiration

Responsibility

Perseverance

**Learning**

Respect

Confidence

Collaboration

**Passion**

# About Dr Challoner's High School



***‘This is an outstanding school. Outstanding education is rooted in a well structured curriculum that amply meets needs. Students further benefit from numerous opportunities to excel in varied extra-curricular activities and to exercise responsibility and leadership.’ Ofsted***

## OUR VISION

We are here to provide the best possible education for girls.

Our tradition of excellence will never change but we are also passionate about breadth of aspiration and opportunity. At the heart of our inspirational school we strive to free girls to be themselves whilst developing strong relationships.

We believe that girls deserve an environment that enables them to be confident, resilient and ready to contribute significantly to the world.

## OUR VALUES

**Best for all our girls:** We will always act with integrity and only ever do what is best for girls.

**Bold:** We believe in an openness to taking appropriate risks; we are a school where all can be confident and courageous.

**Intellectually ambitious:** We believe that high expectations and aspirations are essential goals.

**Joyful:** We believe girls learn best when all are valued, inspired, curious and happy

The world is ever changing; Challoner's Girls will shape that world



# About Dr Challoner's High School



*"I would like to congratulate your staff and pupils on the outstanding progress your pupils are making and your school's high level of Ebacc entry in 2018."*

**Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP**  
**(School Standards Minister) 2019**

## What can we offer you?

### Our culture: how we live our values

**Be brilliant at the basics:** there are some basics that we all need to deliver consistently and with a strong sense of commitment and focus. 100% support of the basics removes the stress that ambiguity brings, meaning we can all focus on the best possible education for all our girls.

#### **Be supportive:**

We help each other deliver the best outcomes graciously based on mutual respect. All of us want to enjoy working in an environment that leads to great outcomes. By being supportive, we will give each other the confidence and courage needed to achieve our individual and shared goals.

#### **Make a difference:**

We unlock our own passions to inspire colleagues and pupils to great outcomes. We all challenge ourselves to grow as professionals and as a school. If we share our passions, we will provide a greater breadth of aspiration and opportunity to our girls. We believe girls learn best when all are valued, inspired and curious; we foster an environment that role models this for our girls.

- Exceptional students who consistently attain outstanding results and make teaching an absolute pleasure
- A supportive and highly capable and committed teaching team
- Excellent facilities with a committed Premises improvement plan for future years
- Excellent opportunities for professional development, including a proactive and highly regarded CPD programme
- London Fringe allowance
- Two week October half term; refer a friend incentive; staff recognition scheme; long service awards
- NQTs considered; NQTs can be paid from 1st July on UQ3 (currently £22,955) until the 1st September when, upon successful completion and acquisition of QTS, will move straight onto point two on the Main Pay Scale (point 3 with significant transferable experience)
- Subsidised gym membership; staff discounts at local shops and restaurants in Little Chalfont

The world is ever changing; Challoner's Girls will shape that world



# About Dr Challoner's High School



*"I have visited and inspected many grammar schools but Challoner's is very different to other grammar schools. Don't let go of those things that are making you wonderful."*

**Ralph Batten (Senior Ofsted executive)**

**Dr Challoner's High School was founded in 1962 to meet the local needs of an expanding population and sits on a 20 acre site in Little Chalfont, Bucks.**

We are here to provide the best possible education for girls. Our tradition of excellence will never change but we are also passionate about breadth of aspiration and opportunity. At the heart of our inspirational school we strive to free girls to be themselves whilst developing strong relationships. We believe that girls deserve an environment that enables them to be confident, resilient and ready to contribute significantly to the world. We are rated '**Outstanding**' by **Ofsted** and we achieved the **Exceptional Schools Award**. Our reputation means that the School is consistently oversubscribed.

## Academic excellence

Our GCSE results in 2019 broke the school's records with a sharp rise in top GCSE grades. Of the grades achieved at the girls' grammar school 34% are grade 9, up from 29% last year, 60% are grades 9/8, again up 4% and grades 9 – 7 have risen to 78%.

Our A level results in 2019 were the best for seven years. 83% of all entries resulted in grades of A\* - B, the highest for seven years. More than half of all grades were A\* or A and one third of girls achieved a 'clean sweep' of A\* and A grades.

Our Progress 8 score was 1.1 in 2019.

**The best advert however for working at Dr Challoner's High School will always be our hugely rewarding students**

***What do our students say? "She's really understanding, she gets on our level, doesn't put pressure on us but makes sure we achieve our potential. SUCH a great teacher."***





## Governance and Leadership

**As an Academy, Challoner's High is led by a strong team of Governors, the Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), working together towards a common vision and goals.**

The Governing Body, comprising 19 governors, provides advice on strategic direction and policy and seeks to support with specific expertise as needed. Governors work through a number of committees with full delegated powers to achieve fast and effective decision making.

The Headteacher (Alan Roe) acts as 'Chief Executive', responsible for the management and operation of the School. The Head leads the Senior team, which comprises two Deputy Heads (Amanda Meredith (Academic) and Caroline Russell (Pastoral)); a Business Manager (Debbie Grimsdale) and three Assistant Heads (Nicola Renyard, Ed Walter and Kate Brown).

The SLT leads the School and is collectively responsible for the day to day operation of the School as well as strategic planning.

There are seven faculties: Creative Arts, Humanities, Maths & Computing, Languages, Physical Education, Science and English & Drama. Each has a Faculty Head reporting to a member of SLT with heads of subjects reporting to Faculty Heads as appropriate.

Whenever possible, Form Tutors and Heads of Year move up the School with form/year groups until Year 11. Years 12 and 13 staff remain with tutor groups in the Sixth Form.

Significant additions to the School budget are provided by parental donations, covenants, gift aid contributions and the Parents' Association.

The Challoner's Girls Foundation was created to support three key areas - funds, time and skills - in recognition of the many people interested in the School's continued excellence who support through their energies, ideas and talents. For example, our innovative 'Girls' Gift' scheme sees girls fundraising for specific school projects of their choosing.

## Admissions

Challoner's High is a popular selective girls school with 1200 girls. One of 13 Grammar Schools in Buckinghamshire, applicants are required to achieve the qualifying score in the 11+ Transfer Test which is centrally administered. Tests are taken each year in September for admission the following year.



***"Your school's Progress 8 score of 1.14 shows that you are amongst the top 1 per cent of state-funded mainstream schools in terms of the progress your pupils make."***

***Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP (School Standards Minister) 2019***

## Curriculum

We offer a broad curriculum and we teach with a strong sense of commitment, focus and mutual respect, whilst having an instinct for the fun, creative and clever.

Our commitment to breadth is reflected in all Year 7s studying French, German and Spanish before opting for two in Year 8 but then taking up Latin. At the top end of the school we offer 25 A Levels.

All girls follow ten GCSE courses of which a number are compulsory elements of the curriculum.

Our policy is to recruit and retain the <b>BEST TEACHERS</b>		<b>THE BEST ACADEMIC RESULTS AND PROGRESS</b>
<b>Smaller class sizes</b> SO WE CAN FOCUS ON YOU	<b>OUR SIXTH FORM</b>	<b>A proven culture where girls thrive</b> We're experts in supporting high performing girls
<b>Wide range of subjects</b> We aim to cater for all passions and run subjects with small numbers	<b>We help you PREPARE FOR LIFE AFTER SCHOOL</b>	<b>WE'RE JUST AS PASSIONATE ABOUT YOUR wellbeing</b>
<b>£3 MILLION INVESTED IN OUR FACILITIES</b> over 3 years	<b>3/4</b> of girls go to Russell Group Universities	<b>COMMUNITY</b> We're distinctly Challoner's High Feel at ease, do well, have fun

The Sixth Form provision involves 3 or 4 A Levels, an EPQ, volunteering and lectures. We aim to provide:

- A broad and challenging curriculum
- Rich and varied extra curricular activities
- Imaginative and innovative teaching
- Regular opportunities for responsibility, teamwork and leadership
- A nurturing, sparky, warm and stimulating learning environment
- Support, challenge and encouragement

***"Teachers are knowledgeable and passionate about their subject which engenders interest and enthusiasm in the students."***

**Best Practice Network**



*'The sixth form is outstanding. Students make outstanding progress gaining very strong examination results because the well-planned curriculum meets their needs so well. Teaching is outstanding and demanding, as are leadership and management. Students thrive in the challenging, but highly supportive, environment.'*  
**Ofsted**

## **The Head Girl Team provides an important role in key decision-making within school**

### **Sixth Form**

Most of the girls meet the entry requirements for Sixth Form and so progress from Year 11, where they meet external candidates who meet the same entry requirements.

We offer to support Sixth Form girls through:

**Excellence:** In academic work but also in our desire for every girl to achieve her best wherever her strength lies. We encourage girls to stretch themselves and go on to the best possible future, whether in higher education or the world of work.

**Student Support and Wellbeing:** We place high value on strong, compassionate pastoral care through an experienced Sixth Form Team, specialist Form Tutors, three professional Counsellors and our School Matron. Form Tutors lead a wide programme of PSHE studies. The school is grounded in traditional values.

**A Broad Curriculum:** Alongside A Levels and EPQ, girls can study additional subjects to attain a further qualification or skill.

The current Year 12 also attend weekly lectures and can learn Italian, Russian, train as Sports Leaders or attend Music Appreciation classes.

**Extra-Curricular:** Many additional activities including drama, music, debate, Young Enterprise and spiritual fellowship as well as overseas trips and expeditions. We encourage girls to be active members of the wider community and to celebrate diversity and tolerance.

## Clubs, Societies & Community Projects

Extra-curricular activities and participation in the community are enthusiastically encouraged from the moment girls join the School. Numerous clubs and activities are on offer. Over 50% of girls currently take part in extra-curricular sport, 300 are learning a musical instrument in School and around 80 trips take place each year.

Participation in charity events and community projects gives girls an informed and responsible attitude to the world around them and helps them develop vital leadership and teamwork skills.

## House System

The School operates a house system with girls placed in one of six houses when they first arrive and in which they stay throughout their time at the School. Houses are named after notable women in history and play a part in School music and sport as well as a pastoral role.

## Estate and Facilities

Our School was built to accommodate around 500 girls but now serves over twice that many. Over the years we have added new facilities which more recently include new Art and Technology rooms, two new cutting-edge Science labs, a centre-piece languages room and full refurbishment and an extension to Music. Our longer term vision includes building a new Sixth Form Centre for which planning permission has been granted. Fundraising is an important source of income.

## Sports Partnership

The Dr Challoner's High School Sports Partnership is a highly successful collaboration of 5 Secondary Schools (each with a dedicated Teacher Release position) and 25 Primary Schools across the Chiltern area. Our ethos is very much about every child, no matter their ability or previous experience of activities, having the opportunity to experience high quality Physical Education, Sport and Physical Activity.

Over the past 9 years, specialist secondary PE teachers have been able to work alongside Primary Teachers in the classroom to increase confidence in the delivery of Physical Education. We assist them in the introduction of new schemes of work and provide ongoing CPD. In an academic year, 10,000 young people participate in the 60 festivals we provide, which is a reflection of the dedication of the Primary School staff, Teacher Release staff, young people and parents.

*"There is a warm and caring environment where mutual respect and courtesy prevail."*

## Best Practice Network





# Working at Dr Challoner's High School



Buckinghamshire is considered an area of outstanding beauty and Dr Challoner's High School is set in the heart of the Chiltern Hills surrounded by picturesque villages, endless country walks and National Trust properties but within a 30 minute journey to the centre of London.

There is a tube station in Little Chalfont, which is a five minute walk away, and a mainline train station in nearby Amersham and Chesham with fast and easy links to London and all its vibrant nightlife and culture, as well as the north of England. We are within easy distance of the M25, M4 and Heathrow Airport.

Our aim is for Dr Challoner's High School to be a great place to work. We have staff social gatherings at the end of each term and a regular social coffee morning in the staff room each week as well as a number of not so traditional opportunities to join in with the real spirit of Challoner's! We have introduced a two week half term in the autumn term, a break that has been much appreciated by all of our staff, and demonstrates our proactive approach to staff welfare.

Each member of the team has a unique place at Challoner's High and the team covers a vast

spectrum of roles and responsibilities that support our purpose of providing the best possible education and school experience for girls.

The Support Staff at Dr Challoner's High School are an integral part of the successful daily running and life of our school. Support staff have a defined status, are supported and encouraged with continued professional development, and hold a respected and significant role within the school community.

Our school culture is purposeful, respectful and supportive. We have an instinct for the fun, creative and clever and are focussed on providing the best for all of our girls.

Being a member of staff at Challoner's High, whether in a support or teaching capacity, is rewarding and is underpinned by a strong moral purpose.

The best advert however for working at Dr Challoner's High School will always be our hard working, sparky, capable and hugely rewarding students.