

Appointment of Head of Classics



SUTTON
HIGH SCHOOL

GDST
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST





About Sutton High School GDST

Sutton High School is an academically selective independent day school for girls with an age range of 3 to 18 years. We are situated on a green and leafy site in central Sutton, close to excellent public transport links and major roads.

Both Senior and Prep Schools are amongst the top schools in the country and attract girls from a wide geographical area and variety of backgrounds, resulting in a school community characterised by qualities of diversity, cohesion and tolerance.

The school is a member of the Girls' Day School Trust (GDST) and the Girls' Schools Association (GSA). Membership of the GDST, the largest group of independent schools in the country, gives us unrivalled opportunities for training and sharing of good practice in teaching and learning.

We are proud of playing our part in leading girls' education since 1884 and enjoy warm, ongoing relationships with our alumnae in the Sutton High School Association.

Examination results

Our examination results are consistently high and significantly above the national average.

Recent results for Latin at A Level have been exceptionally strong. Across all subjects, 80% of A Level grades were A*-B in summer 2018.

We also achieved another set of excellent GCSE results last summer. Over 21% of all grades were level 9, compared to the national average of around 4%. In Latin, 75% of girls gained level 9.

University entrance

Our girls benefit from expert advice and guidance about higher education and the world of work, as we have our own specialist who organises interviews, work experience placements and careers fairs. The majority of girls secure places at Russell Group universities to study an enormously diverse range of courses.

Academic curriculum

Entry to Sutton High Senior School is dependent on success in our entrance examinations. The majority of girls join the Senior School either from Sutton High Prep School or at 11+ entry, although there are occasional places available in other year groups.

In Year 7, all girls study the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science (with study of separate sciences beginning in Year 9). Girls also study two Modern Foreign Languages and Latin. History, Geography, RS, Computing, Drama, Music, PE, Art and DT are taught throughout Key Stage 3. The formal academic curriculum is enhanced with the Kaleidoscope Programme, giving girls an enriched learning experience whilst introducing an element of choice. Ancient Greek is a popular Kaleidoscope option.

At GCSE, the majority of subjects follow the international GCSE specifications, thereby ensuring academic rigour and thorough preparation for A Level study. Students currently choose four options alongside the core, with most girls opting to study at least one language and the Science triple award.

Girls begin A Level study with four subjects, making a final choice after half term assessments. The curriculum offer at this stage is extended to include Economics, Politics and Psychology. The Extended Project Qualification is completed by most students in the Sixth Form, supported by a taught skills course.

The contribution of teaching at Sutton High is characterised by strong value-added, particularly at A Level, as assessed by CEM. Tracking of pupil progress is measured against MidYIS and ALIS data, which is used to generate target minimum levels and grades at each stage and is reported regularly to parents.

Personalised learning for girls is supported by the expertise of specialist ALN and EAL teachers who work closely with Heads of Department to maximise progress for each individual girl. All departments produce extension material and opportunities for gifted and talented pupils.

Digital learning is supported by excellent ICT infrastructure and increasing resources. The school also benefits from a large library.

Pastoral care

Committed pastoral care is a characteristic feature of Sutton High. Strikingly positive relationships between the girls and their teachers, both within the classroom and beyond, make a significant contribution to the quality of the girls' academic and personal development. All members of staff, both teaching and support, are expected to put the wellbeing of the girls at the top of the agenda. Our commitment to girls' personal development drives the PSHCE programme which is delivered through the Personal & Social Responsibility (PSR) curriculum by a specialist teacher.

Members of teaching staff are expected to be form tutors, working as part of a tutor team under a Head of Year. The structure incorporates Heads of Year as follows:

- Head of Year 7 and 8
- Head of Year 9
- Head of Year 10 and 11
- Head of Year 12 and 13

Heads of Year meet weekly with form tutors and monitor the progress of girls throughout the year. The Pastoral Team also includes a school nurse, a school counsellor and a school doctor.

Lower and Upper School assemblies take place each week, where successes are celebrated and topics relevant to the age group can be explored. Senior School assemblies take place twice a week, covering many spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues, with a whole school assembly concluding each term.

Everyone in the school community is a member of one of the four Houses, taking part enthusiastically in events throughout the year. The House system and Student Council also provide significant leadership opportunities for girls. All form captains are representatives on either the Lower or Upper School Councils, chaired by the Head Girl and her Deputy. These girls are also responsible for the organisation of Charity Week, which takes place around the school birthday each January.

Co-curriculum

Choir, orchestra and ensembles flourish, with significant numbers of girls involved in concerts and productions during the course of the school year. Many girls are members of sports teams enjoying success in competitions and tournaments, and we stage at least one major drama production every year, alternating our own school production with a joint musical in conjunction with the boys from Sutton Grammar School.

Recent trips have included the Year 7 adventure trip to the Isle of Wight, the Biology trip to the Galapagos Islands, the History trip to Berlin, the Sixth Form trip to Florence and the Classics trip to Herculaneum and Pompeii.



Picture: Virtual reality tour of Pompeii. Sutton High School Classics trip, November 2017.

The Classics Department

Classics is taught at Sutton High School from Year 7–13, with Latin being offered as both a GCSE and an A Level subject. Take-up is strong and the department achieves excellent results.

Years 7–9

All girls in Years 7 and 8 study Latin and can choose to continue the subject in Year 9. The Cambridge Latin Course is followed throughout. The aims of the course during Key Stage 3 are as follows:

- stimulate an interest in and enthusiasm for the study of ancient civilisation.
- improve all pupils' understanding of English grammar and spelling.
- create awareness of the world we live in by comparison with ancient cultures.
- enable all pupils to appreciate classical literature, whether in the original or in translation.
- enable pupils to assess various types of primary source.
- encourage pupils to think logically and to analyse clearly.
- prepare students effectively for GCSE and A Level Latin.

Years 10 and 11

Students are entered for the Eduqas GCSE, which gives girls a thorough grounding in Latin language and literature, as well as offering an insight into Roman civilisation. The study of Latin literature is based around themes such as "A Day at the Races" and students will examine stories from Ovid, like *Echo and Narcissus*.

Years 12 and 13

Students are entered for the OCR A Level. Linguistic work mainly involves translation from Latin to English, although students may be asked to compose sentences or short passages in Latin. Unseen prose and verse authors are set and these texts are generally tested through comprehension questions. The study of literature involves reading texts from the golden period of classical Latin. These may include Virgil, Ovid, Cicero and Tacitus. Assessment is generally made through comprehension questions, short passages of translation and essays.

Location

The Senior and Prep School entrances are located on roads parallel to each other:

- Senior School reception is located at 55 Cheam Road, Sutton, Surrey SM1 2AX
- Prep School reception is located at 86 Grove Road, Sutton, Surrey SM1 2AL

Sutton railway station is less than 10 minutes' walk away. We are close to local bus routes and there is limited parking on the school site.

How to apply

Please download and complete the application form on our website to apply.

Closing date: Friday 25 January at midday

Interview date: Wednesday 30 January

If you have any questions, contact Clare Hayward on 020 8225 3002 or hr@sut.gdst.net



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