

SURBITON

HIGH SCHOOL



Teaching at Surbiton High School

A Message from Rebecca Glover

Principal

Thank you for showing an interest in working at Surbiton High School. I am fully aware of how important it is to choose the right school, where the ethos and working environment allow you to truly enjoy teaching and enable you to bring out the best in the pupils, whilst also seeking opportunities to broaden and further your career. By reading the testimonies of our staff and watching the recruitment video on the School's website, you will gain valuable insight into the School, our ethos and aims, and what it is truly like to work at Surbiton High School.

As the Principal, it has been a delight to discover the breadth and depth of talent amongst all members of the community. Surbiton High School is a truly collaborative environment, where inspirational staff, both new and existing, are nurtured, allowed to develop their careers and 'fly'. The opportunities for career progression within the School and the wider United Learning group can be demonstrated through my own personal career path. Prior to taking up the role as Principal of Surbiton High School, I held the position of Headteacher at Hull Collegiate School, part of United Learning. This career progression, to lead Surbiton High School, was made easier by the knowledge I already had of the School and of working for United Learning.

It is with great pleasure that I lead Surbiton High School. Together with the proactive and committed Senior Leadership Team, we have fostered an environment that ensures we bring out the best in all. The community spirit, drive for excellence and determination to build on successes pervades everything we do. Every day, we aspire to bring alive our ethos to 'Inspire, Encourage, Empower'.



The History of Surbiton High School

Surbiton High School aims to bring out the best in everyone: to discover the best in everyone, to expect the best from everyone, and to support everyone to achieve their personal best. Our school motto, "May love always lead us", encourages respect for and service to others.

Surbiton High School is part of United Learning, an Anglican foundation which, whilst valuing and building on its Christian heritage, welcomes staff and pupils from all faiths and none. Surbiton High School is a friendly and vibrant community where individuals thrive and feel happy, secure, confident and valued. Our approach combines an intellectually rigorous and challenging academic environment with outstanding pastoral care and support.

Our 2015 ISI report is a resounding endorsement of the superb quality of education that Surbiton High School provides. 'Excellent' was awarded in all categories, with 'Exceptional' being given for pupil achievement. In particular, it highlights that 'attainment in public examinations is high' and 'the personal development of the pupils is excellent, well supported by effective pastoral care', 'high standards of teaching, care, and provision are applied throughout the whole school' and 'extremely good relations with parents are evident'. The team judged that our 'pupils have excellent attitudes to learning', that 'they work in a focussed and committed fashion', and 'pupils are active participants in lessons, confident to ask for help but able to work independently at a high level from a very young age'.

Girls naturally progress from the Prep to the Senior School. Boys transfer at 11 to the local grammar or independent schools. We have a separate Sixth Form Centre with dedicated classrooms and common room. With a record of strong A-level results, girls progress to top universities, including Oxbridge and those in the Russell Group.

Founded in 1884, Surbiton High School has established a reputation for academic excellence whilst catering for the needs of the individual. Surbiton High School is at the forefront of independent education, providing high quality teaching, a positive learning environment and extensive Co-curricular opportunities for our pupils. The principal is a member of The Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference (HMC). We educate girls aged 4 to 18 years and boys aged 4 to 11 years.

Academic Results

At Surbiton High School, we are proud of the consistently high academic standards of our students. Each year, our students go on to achieve results which are amongst the best in the UK and this facilitates access to some of the most competitive university courses. Our students are also able to demonstrate their independent study skills and intellectual curiosity via the highly regarded Extended Project Qualification which is studied alongside A-levels.

For further information on our excellent Academic Results please go to our school website: www.surbitonhigh.com/aboutsurbiton/exam-results

Our Prep Schools have successful academic results year upon year with many pupils from both Schools being awarded scholarships at senior school and over 80% of our pupils from the Boys' Prep School gaining a place at their first choice senior school.

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Surbiton High School offers a wide range of Co-curricular activities. Sport, Music and Drama are the pillars of the Co-curricular programme and provide numerous opportunities for all pupils. Sports offered include Netball, Hockey, Tennis, Rowing, Gymnastics, Athletics, Skiing and Trampolining. Music ensembles include a number of choirs, Wind Band, Orchestra and Percussion Ensemble, together with specific instrumental groups. Drama clubs will take place throughout the week and productions will be staged at various points throughout the academic year, including our annual whole School musical. Other stimulating, enriching and challenging clubs that staff are able to lead range from Chess, Art and Debating to Friendship Hour and Amnesty. All pupils are in Houses and take part in House Events. Pupils are encouraged to take advantage of the numerous highquality opportunities on offer, which are designed to develop commitment, teamwork, curiosity, creativity and leadership, and form an integral part of a well-rounded education.

Co-curricular Activities

Teaching Staff **Testimonies**

There are many aspects of the School I enjoy, however, the main one is the opportunity and flexibility that Surbiton High School has given me. Soon after joining the School, I was able to amend my working hours to become a part-time teacher, which allowed me to spend more time at home each week with my young family.

As a male teacher, this is particularly important to me, but I have been pleased to find that my career development as a teacher has not been affected as a result.

Rob Skinner, Computing Teacher Director of Adventure Learning Head of Nightingale House, Senior School

I absolutely love working at Surbiton High School; there s real team camaraderie among the staff and I feel that I am a valued member of the School. Since I joined Surbiton High School in 2010, my passion for the job keeps growing. This is largely down to the amazing students who I interact with on a daily basis – it is a privilege to teach them. I am constantly supported by my department and the Senior Leadership Team, who encourage me in my career progression at this prestigious School.

Kjersti Richards, **History Teacher**

Working at Surbiton High School has Surbiton High School has a great mix of environment. I joined SHS five years ago after dynamic Senior Leadership Team. Working some time spent working internationally. with these professionals; as well as getting Since then, I have been fortunate enough to to teach enthusiastic, good-humoured, benefit from the School's commitment to CPD, academically-able students; makes Surbiton progressing from a Physics teacher to leading a great place to work! the Science Department. Part of the School's Miss Emma Geraghty commitment to my development has been to Head of Science part-fund my MA in Educational Leadership at the Institute of Education at UCL.

allowed me to develop as a teacher and a excellent, dedicated staff who are a pleasure leader in a supportive, fun and innovative to work alongside, including a supportive,



You cannot help but be inspired and stimulated whilst working at Surbiton High School. Everyday life is accented with opportunity and challenge from every corner of the School: from pupils whose infectious curiosity craves your guiding hand, to fellow colleagues eager to flex their creativity. And all with one sole aim: to ensure that every pupil flourishes.

Throughout my time at the School, my development has been continually supported and encouraged. Surbiton High School welcomes inspirational teachers and empowers you in finding your niche – to discover your passions and to help you realise these within the educational environment. It is a vibrant community that, with energy and dedication, will help you reap the rewards of a teaching career.

David Williams, Deputy Head of Girls' Prep

I have worked at Surbiton High School for seven years now. I started as an Artist in Residence, where I was given my own studio. I was encouraged to make my own work and then spend time working with the students; inspiring them with my practice. After a few months I felt completely at home here; I became more and more involved in the lessons and it was suggested to me that I consider training to be teacher. I took Surbiton High School up on this offer and my training began. I thoroughly enjoyed that training year; being in School each day 'learning on the job'. I was fully supported throughout, and through excellent guidance from my department and from other very supportive staff, my role began to grow. Before I knew it, I was a qualified Art Teacher and a Form Tutor. From there I worked hard and became an Assistant Head of Year. I was able to work closely with the tutor team and my year group; implementing changes, advising and listening to students on a daily basis. I have loved this role; the pastoral side of teaching is something I think that all teachers should get a grasp on. It taught me patience and let me

I wanted to teach in a school that was forward-thinking and creative in its approach, a school that respected and encouraged the individual whilst giving the security of a caring and supportive environment. Surbiton High School fitted this brief exactly.

Throughout my time at Surbiton High School, I have been thoroughly supported by the Senior Leadership Team who have offered bespoke professional development, both within the School and as part of United Learning.

Sally Ralph, Head of the Boys' Preparatory School

understand the issues and demands of young people, and has ultimately made me a much better subject teacher. I am now leaving my role as Assistant Head of Year 10/11 and am becoming Assistant Director of Art. This new challenge for me will be a way to strengthen my subject knowledge and give me the opportunity to lead more of a team and use my creative passion to further influence the students.

What is most special about this School isn't the amazing facilities or what we have to offer on the curriculum. I believe it is the care that we show the students: the knowledge that they are always supported in all they do; they come first as young people before their grades or academic rigour. This, I feel, is our community spirit - the staff are all good friends and there is a mutual respect between students and teachers. Surbiton High School is a very special place and I feel very privileged to work here.

Hayley Bowden Assistant Director of Art

Career Progression

Continuous professional development for teachers

The Professional Development of staff is at the heart of our ethos at Surbiton High School. We are committed to providing a range of opportunities to support our teachers in being highly skilled subject practitioners. We also support career progression through our CPD and leadership programme, which offers training both in-house and through United Learning. There is a member of the Senior Leadership Team dedicated to overseeing staff development and who acts as a point of contact for all teachers.

Comprehensive staff induction

An induction programme is provided for all new teachers.

Graduate Teacher Training

Surbiton High School trains teachers to gain Qualified Teacher Status. A bespoke training programme has been developed to allow trainee teachers to receive professional training whilst also teaching a reduced timetable at School. This exciting opportunity to train in School has been utilised by some of our current staff, who have gone on to take up leadership opportunities in the School.

Newly Qualified Teachers

Surbiton High School acts as the host school for Regional Independent Schools' NQT Conferences. We run a dedicated NQT programme and all NQTs receive one-toone support from their subject mentor and induction tutor. NQTs are encouraged to undertake further professional development opportunities to enhance their teaching. They also gain experience of both the academic and pastoral side of school life.

United Learning professional development

As part of United Learning, Surbiton High School actively encourages staff to take part in both its development and leadership programmes. Recently we have established a bespoke coaching programme for staff who are new to leadership roles. Staff are also encouraged to attend the Middle Leaders' and Senior Leaders' courses to enhance and develop their leadership styles.

NPQSL and NPQML qualifications

These are supported by the School. A number of colleagues also undertake Masters qualifications which offer funding support where possible.

The School runs its own CPD Pathways programme offering personalised CPD Provision for staff.

At Surbiton High School we are committed to 'The best in everyone'. As a valued part of our school community, we recognise the talents of our staff and want to support them in their career progression.

Facilities

Surbiton High School offers numerous facilities to both pupils and staff

Surbiton High School facilities include:

- Purpose-built classrooms.
- Seven sites closely located in Surbiton.
- iPads for all teachers and pupils.
- Specialist laboratories for Sciences.
- An open-plan Art School and Design and Technology workshops.
- 33-acre sports site nearby at Hinchley Wood which includes an astro hockey pitch, 6 tennis/netball courts, a football/ rugby pitch and a pavillion.
- 6-acre sports ground in Oaken Lane which includes an all-weather hockey pitch and 3 tennis/netball courts.
- A Boat House at Teddington.
- A dedicated Learning Resources Centre.
- A landscaped courtyard area.











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An independent school for boys aged 4 - 11 and girls aged 4 - 18

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