



OLA
OUR LADY'S
ABINGDON

Our Lady's Abingdon, a member of the Society of Heads and the Catholic Independent Schools' Conference (CISC), is a thriving and highly regarded independent coeducational day school for approximately 380 pupils aged 7 to 18. It is set in pleasant grounds within walking distance of the centre of Abingdon-upon-Thames.

The School was founded in 1860 by the Sisters of Mercy. Until 2011 a community of Sisters in Abingdon played an important role in its life, helping to strengthen the ethos of integrity and warmth that are two of its special characteristics. The School is now run by a lay Trust and there has been a lay head for many years. Children of all faiths and none are warmly welcomed and participate fully in the spiritual life of the School.

As a Catholic School, OLA aims to develop the individual talents of each pupil, believing that every human being is created as a unique person with gifts that need to be recognised and valued. Although relatively small, we offer a broad and balanced curriculum. Pupils take nine or ten subjects at GCSE, while in the Sixth Form students usually take three A Levels and benefit from a curriculum Enrichment Course. Pupils achieve excellent examination results and almost all go on to Higher Education. A wide range of out-of-School activities complements the curriculum. Many clubs and societies are on offer and pupils participate with notable success in both the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and Young Enterprise Scheme.

Building programmes over recent years have provided excellent teaching facilities for subjects across the curriculum. A refurbished Sixth Form Centre and Design & Technology Centre have been opened in the last few years, along with additional classrooms for the RS and PE departments. Café Mall, an additional dining facility for senior students, is another recent development.

The Lower School takes boys and girls from the age of 7, almost all of whom progress on to the Middle School at the age of eleven. The remainder of the School intake is drawn from a range of both state and preparatory schools from across Oxfordshire and beyond.

OLA is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its pupils and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.