

Stephen Perse

Cambridge

Junior School



Prospectus

live

learn

thrive



Who We Are

**We are
Stephen Perse
Cambridge**
a vibrant school
educating children
aged 2 to 18.

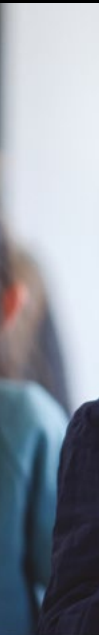


Home to more than 1400 students, our campuses are located across Cambridge and Madingley.

Founded in the 19th century with support from the 17th century legacy of Dr Stephen Perse.

The school consistently provides a superb education

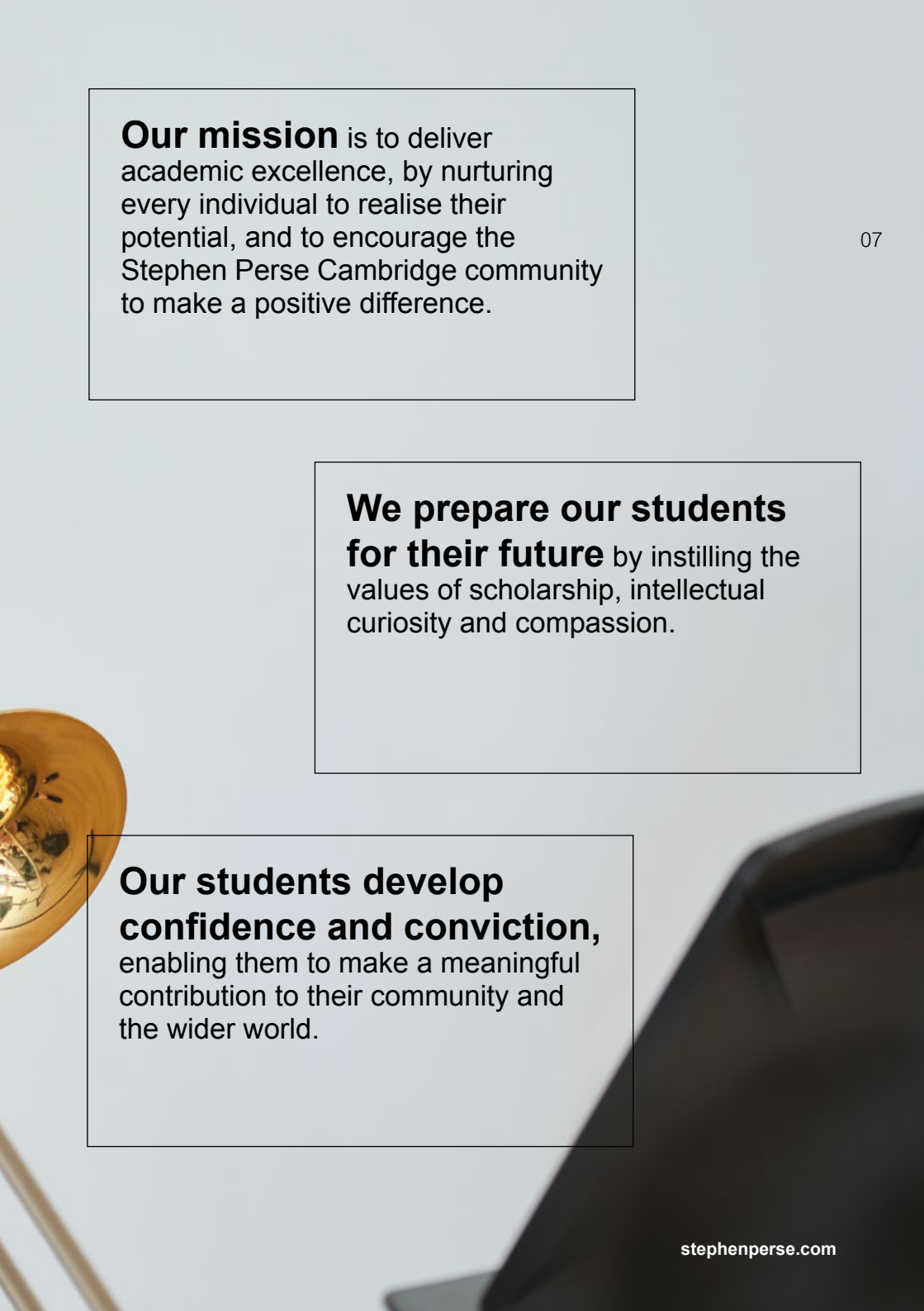
Utilising modern teaching techniques and tools in the heart of Cambridge, a centuries-old historic seat of learning and now also a hub of high-tech industry and bioscience, with all the benefits that this brings.





A young boy with brown hair, wearing a white short-sleeved shirt and a dark green sweater tied around his waist, is playing a golden trumpet. He is looking off to the side with a focused expression. The background is a plain, light grey wall.

What We Do



Our mission is to deliver academic excellence, by nurturing every individual to realise their potential, and to encourage the Stephen Perse Cambridge community to make a positive difference.

07

We prepare our students for their future by instilling the values of scholarship, intellectual curiosity and compassion.

Our students develop confidence and conviction, enabling them to make a meaningful contribution to their community and the wider world.

Why Choose Stephen Perse Cambridge?

At Stephen Perse Cambridge, we are committed to delivering academic excellence, personal growth and social responsibility for all our students.

“

Stephen Perse Cambridge has taught me confidence, leadership skills, approachability, time management, responsibility, and intellectual curiosity.”



Our environment fosters the best in every student, offering a dynamic and diverse curriculum alongside engaging co-curricular activities. This approach encourages each learner to pursue their educational goals with ambition.

Our curriculum, grounded in strong values and a close-knit community, equips students with the skills and confidence needed to thrive and make a positive impact in the world.

Families choose Stephen Perse Cambridge for our values-driven ethos and exceptional pastoral care. We prioritise independence of thought, creativity, curiosity, and compassion, nurturing and celebrating each student's individuality, wellbeing, and personal growth. This supportive environment inspires students to develop with ambition and contribute positively both during their school years and beyond.

We offer

Exceptional Academic Results and University Placements

We consistently achieve top results in GCSEs and A levels. Students progress to leading universities, as well as elite conservatoires and art schools. UK destinations include the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, Imperial College London, the Russell Group institutions, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, and sought after degree apprenticeships, whilst overseas our students progress to universities including Princeton, Stanford, Toronto, Amsterdam, Sciences Po, Heidelberg and Hong Kong.

71%

2024 GCSEs
graded 9-7 (A*-A)

48%

2024 A levels
graded A*-A

52.9%

2024 GCSEs
graded 8-9

75%

2024 A levels
graded A*-B



Expert Teaching

Our passionate and experienced teachers deliver exceptional and motivating lessons that provide stretch and challenge within a supportive environment.

Personalised Pastoral Care

All our students are known individually by our dedicated tutors and Heads of Year, ensuring that they receive support and guidance tailored to their individual needs.

Holistic Development Beyond the Academic

We go beyond our superb academic programme, fostering strong character, critical thinking, and leadership skills. Our extensive co-curricular opportunities allow children to explore their talents, build confidence and connect with their peers. Our enrichment programme further develops crucial transferable skills through activities including our Orchestra, Artful Antics for those who enjoy developing their Art History and creative skills, Chess Club to learn and develop their practice of this strategic and gripping challenge between two minds, Inventor's Playground examines Engineering challenges in familiar settings with wider world implications, and Music Tech allows children to master tools to enhance musical performance and recording whilst Global Gamers explore traditional playtime and board games from different countries and cultures.

Supportive and Inclusive Community

We celebrate diversity and practise inclusion, fostering a warm, welcoming environment.

Global Outlook in a Thriving City

Located in the heart of Cambridge, a world-renowned centre of learning and culture, we prepare students for citizenship in an interconnected, fast-developing world.

International exchange programs and a strong emphasis on languages broaden perspectives and develop intercultural understanding.

Our campus provides a safe and inspiring environment for students to:

13

live

learn

thrive

“

My highlight has been the numerous school trips, especially the memorable trip to Edinburgh in Year 6.”

A young boy with dark hair and blue-rimmed glasses is smiling and carrying a young girl on his shoulders. The girl has dark curly hair and is also smiling. They are outdoors, with green foliage in the background. The boy is wearing an orange t-shirt with a cartoon character on it and a black hoodie. The girl is wearing a black top. The text 'Wrap Around Care & Holiday Provision' is overlaid on the image in white, with a vertical blue line to the left of the words 'Wrap Around Care &'.

Wrap Around Care & Holiday Provision

Extended School Hours: we are open from 7:30am to 6:00pm, providing a safe and supervised environment for your child before and after school.



Convenient Home-to-School Transport

We offer extensive home to school transport, allowing children aged 5 and up to travel to and from school on a bus at a convenient location near you.

Clubs

During and after school we offer a host of clubs to enable our pupils to explore existing interests or discover new passions. Try something new like fencing, or delve deeper into a favourite subject.

Holiday Fun for Reception

Our Reception children can enjoy familiar faces and fun activities during all school holidays with our holiday club staffed by the Reception team.

Holiday Enrichment Program for ages 5-11

Every holiday offers an exciting enrichment program with specialist coaching in a variety of skills. From musical theatre and orienteering to classic sports like football and tennis, there's something for everyone.



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I have thrived at Stephen Perse since Year 3. Currently, I am studying A Level Biology, Chemistry, and Mathematics, alongside an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). With a deep interest in science, particularly biology, I chose these subjects to prepare for a career in Veterinary Medicine.

I appreciate the foundation's smaller, more individual, and caring environment compared to larger schools, which has provided me with extensive support and a variety of extracurricular activities.

I have enjoyed many aspects of my time at Stephen Perse, especially the inclusive and supportive atmosphere that has enabled me to balance academics with sports, music, and drama. My favourite places in the school include the common rooms and café, which foster interactions and friendships.

Highlights of my time at the school include reaching the National Finals in hockey and netball, captaining the netball team at the World Schools Games, playing the baritone saxophone at the West Road concert, and winning best in year group at the Regional Philosothon.”

Abbey H



Our Curriculum

At Stephen Perse Cambridge, we encourage children to be active learners – to ask questions, to make mistakes and explore their interests and talents. Our approach is motivational, innovative, inspiring and highly creative.

By combining academic rigour with creative, flexible teaching, in the classroom, labs, playground and Forest School, we see our pupils grow as independent learners.

Our pupils enjoy endless ways to discover their own strengths and gain life-long skills, as well as the confidence to take their next steps in education when they move on to Senior School.





Our Learning Wheel

Knowledge versus skills? We believe that it isn't a choice between one or the other. Our Learning Wheel places the pupil at its centre, is holistic and integrates the key areas of knowledge and understanding with thinking skills and learning characteristics.

Our Thinking Toolkit

Our Thinking Toolkit helps our students to unlock everything that the Learning Wheel has to offer. Designed to foster independence, flexibility, and self-challenge, this innovative tool serves as a compass for our pupils' educational journey. Each segment is a crucial facet of critical thinking and problem-solving skills, equipping students to approach challenges with confidence and creativity.

Through structured guidance and tailored exercises, the Thinking Toolkit encourages students to explore diverse perspectives, think outside the box, and embrace intellectual curiosity. Using this comprehensive framework for our curriculum, we ensure that every student develops the resilience and adaptability needed to excel in academic pursuits and real-world scenarios.

Within our curriculum, our six learning areas that we explore with the Thinking Toolkit are detailed on the following pages.



Language and communication

Communication skills help us to express ourselves effectively, develop rewarding relationships and expand our knowledge of the world. In English, French and Spanish there are opportunities to communicate in conversations and debates, on paper and on screen using digital tools.

We use a wide range of media, from newspaper articles to films, and activities can be anything from acting to designing persuasive posters. As well as taking a look at the cultures of France and Spain, we delve inside languages to see how they work. Developing a richer vocabulary is also important, whether you're asking questions, listening to someone else's opinion, reading an interesting story or writing an accurate description.

Our language lessons are exciting, imaginative and often cross into other subjects. Learning to introduce yourself in Spanish, talking about your hobbies in French or writing imaginative poetry in English are just a few of the challenges on offer.



Mathematical understanding

Investigating, describing, interpreting, solving – our approach to Maths covers a breadth of skills and encourages pupils to think for themselves and apply the methods they have learnt. We think together about which strategy suits the problem in front of us. Would a mental method be more suitable than a written one?

Pupils discuss the methods that they use and share their ideas with others to show their full understanding of a solution. Mental Maths and learning key facts underpins and lays the foundations for all our mathematical work. Making links with Maths across the curriculum, especially in Science, our approach is about exploring and experimenting, playing and creating – and, above all, inspiring curiosity and enjoyably challenging our pupils.

Scientific understanding

We help our pupils consider what the world is made of and how it works. Their scientific quests could lead them from the tiniest particle to looking into the vastness of space.

They might design an interactive function machine in Maths and see how numbers play a vital role in everyday life. To house our scientific quests, we have two specialist Science labs, which offer the opportunity for our pupils to develop their passion for the subject as they build on their ability to become independent investigators.



Humanities: social understanding

Through Humanities, we discover more about ourselves, our place in the world and our effect on the planet in Geography, History, Religious Education and PSHEE.

We see how events of the past have shaped our thinking and explore the ways in which different communities cope with rapid change as they plan for the future. We connect Humanities with Art, Design, Music and Drama - unlocking creative ways to explore the subjects and from Geography at the coast to experiencing a Victorian classroom - we bring topics to life.



Creative and Performing Arts

We offer plenty of opportunities to create, design, play, dance and perform – it's all about learning whilst having fun!

Art and design colour and enrich our experience of everyday surroundings, as they develop our powers of observation.

In our Create Design Engineering lessons, the topics encourage our pupils to be confident in developing their ideas and designs while learning techniques, using different materials and increasing their competence in handling tools.

Many projects involve looking at and discussing works of art, or designs from different periods. In this way, our pupils become aware not only of their own creative abilities, but also of the world of artists and craftspeople. Aesthetic choices confront us at all times and we believe it's vitally important that artistic sensibilities are developed to the fullest extent, ensuring a lifelong interest and understanding of colour, form, tone and texture.

Drama forms an integral part of the Junior School curriculum. Drama, speaking and listening skills are embedded across the curriculum and from Year 4 discrete Drama lessons encourage collaboration and creativity and help to boost self-confidence.

Through participation, children at Stephen Perse Cambridge Junior School begin to acquire the skills needed to stand up in front of an audience and to create imaginative and effective theatre. There are plenty of opportunities to take part in Drama activities and performances throughout the school: we aim to be totally inclusive and believe that everyone deserves to play a good role.

Music is everywhere at Stephen Perse Cambridge Junior School! Everyone plays the recorder, while flute, clarinet, piano and violin top the popularity charts, with saxophone and guitar rising fast. Whatever your level, there are opportunities to perform – in lessons, assemblies and clubs, as well as in concerts, recitals and performer's platforms – where families join us to hear the results of all that practice.

- Music is part of our core curriculum – orchestra and choir are integral to our timetable.
- Everyone plays an instrument.
- Over half our pupils take specialist music lessons.

Sport, PE and Wellbeing

We believe physical activity plays a vital role in a child's development. That's why we offer a dedicated sports program designed to nurture a love of movement, teamwork, and healthy competition in children aged 4-7. One lesson a week is dedicated to developing essential skills such as strength, discipline, coordination and balance.

Activities include:

- Gymnastics
- Yoga
- Fitness Training

The other lesson introduces the fundamentals of team sports through fun outdoor games. These games will involve basic equipment like rackets and balls, fostering a spirit of cooperation and communication.

Our facilities include our:

Hall: We boast a spacious indoor hall for all weather conditions. Here, children can participate in a variety of physical activities, including gymnastics with specialised equipment.

Outdoor Multi-Use Games Area:

our outdoor space features a multi-use games area, perfect for energetic games and team-building exercises.

Latham Road Sports Facilities: from Year 2 (age 6), children use our Latham Road Sports Ground, with five acres of sporting space, this expansive facility offers a variety of outdoor sports areas, including:

- Astro hockey pitch
- Netball courts
- Cricket nets
- Private jetty on the River Cam

From age 8 onwards, children benefit from an expanded sports curriculum and weekly sports lessons venture beyond the school grounds, utilising top-notch city facilities in addition to our own superb Latham Road Sports Ground, including:

- Swimming at Parkside Pools
- Football at Gonville & Caius College
- Athletics at the University Sports Ground







I have been at Stephen Perse Cambridge from Nursery through to Sixth Form and have really enjoyed the friendly and supportive atmosphere and having a range of opportunities to tailor my choices according to my interests.

The highlight of my time here has been the support that I have received from the staff as they helped me develop my self-belief in the academic ability that they saw in me.

I have made many friends in this close-knit community and my advice to new students joining the school is “Do what you love and utilise the great support and help that the staff offer.”

George W



Forest School

In support of our learning in the classroom, playground and sports ground, our Forest School program offers children ages 4-7 a unique opportunity to:

Thrive in a Natural Environment: we hold regular, long-term Forest School sessions in a safe and beautiful woodland setting.


Connect with Nature Year-Round: rain or shine, your child will explore, play, and discover the wonders of nature across all seasons.

Build Confidence and Resilience: our program fosters a safe space for children to take calculated risks, express themselves freely, and learn from their experiences.

Develop Social and Emotional Skills: Forest School fosters social interaction, emotional well-being, and a sense of belonging in a supportive outdoor environment.

Embrace a Growth Mindset: we believe in learning by doing, and Forest School encourages children to experiment, solve real-world challenges, and build self-belief.





Expanding Horizons (Ages 8-11)

Our commitment to learning through nature extends beyond the classroom walls at the Junior School. Examples include:

Year 4: Building Confidence in the Outdoors

Norfolk Adventure: Combine the thrill of bouldering with the challenge of raft building on the lakes in Norfolk. This trip equips young learners with practical skills and a sense of accomplishment.


Year 5 & 6: Conquering New Heights

Peak District: Embark on a 4-night expedition into the heart of the Peak District. Explore hidden caverns, develop teamwork skills, and discover the wonders of the Peak District countryside on bicycle and by foot.

Snowdonia Challenge: Your child's Junior School journey culminates with a triumphant climb of Snowdon, Wales' highest peak. This unforgettable 4-night adventure includes abseiling, gorge walking and an exploration of life in the river.



Co-curricular and Sports



From theatre trips and art exhibitions, to accessing a wealth of local opportunities in Cambridge – learning in context away from the classroom is integral to our curriculum, both within the timetable and through our clubs and societies.

34 Whether you want to try your hand at fencing or archery, spend time paddleboarding on the Cam from our private jetty and nature reserve, hone your jazz skills, develop your chess game, delve into local history, create amazing art and learn about other fantastic artists over the ages, or enjoy team sports, there is something for everyone in our enrichment and outdoor education programmes.

Opportunities are offered in a variety of ways, from lunchtime and after school clubs to residential trips in the UK, encouraging young people to challenge themselves, gain independence and develop their practical and social skills.

We celebrate achievement of all kinds and when it comes to sport, there's a lot to applaud. Our teams compete at local, county, regional and national level, and we also have athletes competing in sports up to and including international level.







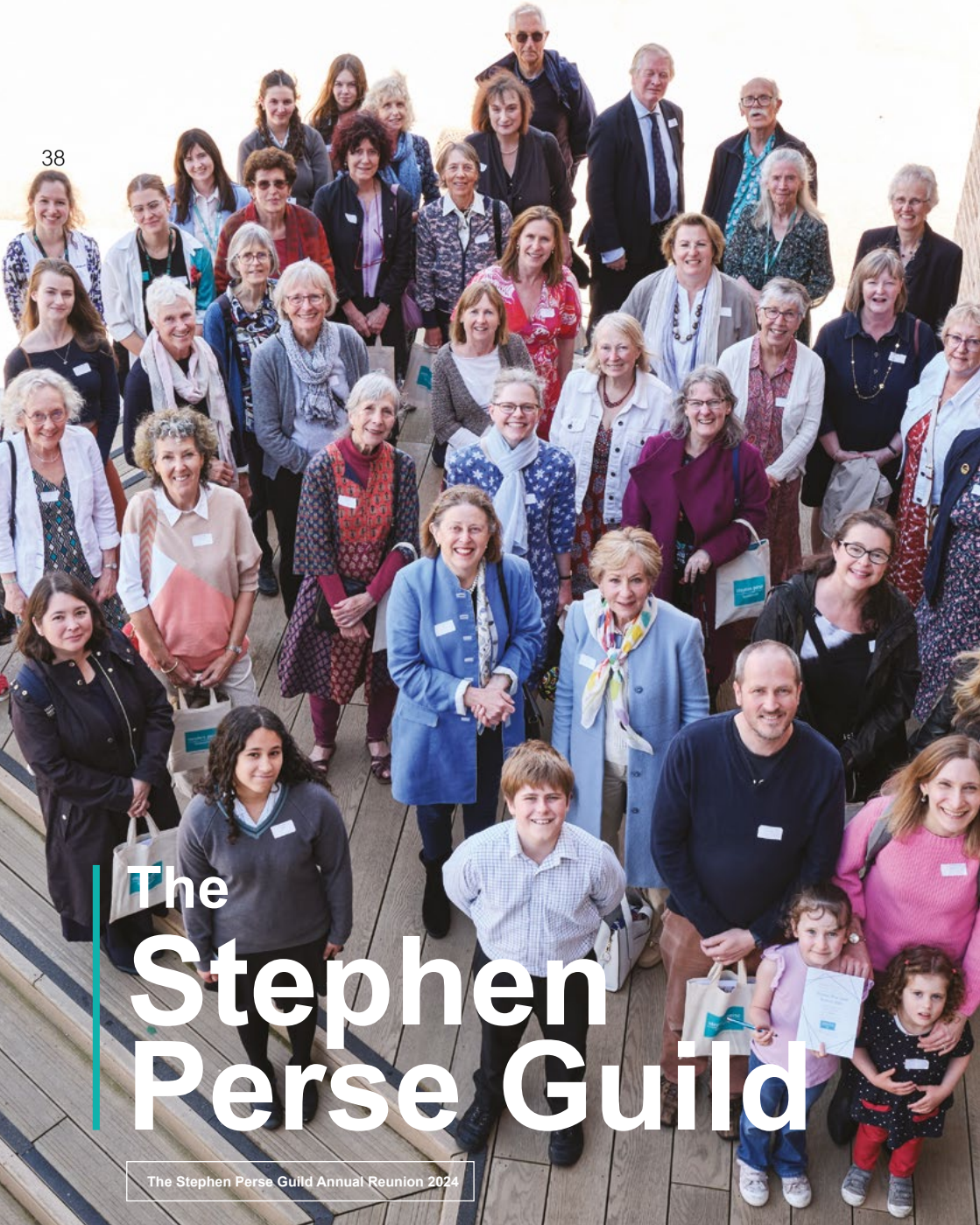


Year 7 student from Stephen Perse Cambridge Senior School, Rose R, returned from Ciudad Real, Spain, in March 2024 with both an individual and team Silver Medal for England, in the European Fencing Confederation (EFC) U14 Women's Foil competition.

Having first been introduced to fencing in Year 2 at Stephen Perse Cambridge Junior School and after just two years of intermediate to advance level fencing with her local club, Cambridge Sword, 11 year old Rose was the youngest competitor to be selected for the England U14 fencing team competing at the European tournament.

In her short but high achieving fencing career, Rose has managed to catch up with many seasoned fencers, having won the Championship for the U12 Women's Foil category at the Eastern Region Qualifiers earlier this year.

At number 19, Rose is currently the highest ranked England fencer in the European rankings for the Women's U14 Foil.”



The Stephen Perse Guild

The Stephen Perse Guild Annual Reunion 2024



Founded in 1903, the Stephen Perse Guild connects alumni and former staff as lifelong members of the Stephen Perse community.

We are always keen to hear about their successes and achievements and to remain connected with them. Guild membership provides our alumni and former staff with easy access to a supportive, friendly and useful network of friends and contacts throughout their lives.

From raising families and volunteering in their communities, to excelling in their professional lives, Guild members are ambassadors for Stephen Perse values and support one another in many ways, including volunteering for Careers and Guidance events and activities and making gifts, or leaving legacies. These donations are the embodiment of Stephen Perse values and fund bursaries, scholarships and outreach programmes with a lasting and positive impact for current and future generations of students and society.

Prepared with their Stephen Perse Cambridge education, Guild members contribute to society in many ways, as creative and performing artists, journalists, medical and health professionals, teachers, engineers, campaigners and more. Whether performing at the Royal Albert Hall, winning a Grammy, working as President of the Royal College of Medicine during a global pandemic, protecting national security at the head of GCHQ, or teaching the next generation, Guild members make meaningful contributions across society.

How to Apply

Join us at Stephen Perse Cambridge and embark on a journey of intellectual discovery, personal growth, and lifelong learning.

We welcome applications from talented and motivated students from the UK and overseas.

Main entry points are at Reception and Year 3, with entry into other year groups where spaces allow.

Find out more

For detailed information on the application process, entrance requirements and open days, please visit our website at stephenperse.com or contact our Admissions Team on admissions@stephenperse.com

Final Thoughts

At Stephen Perse Cambridge, we believe in educating the whole child. Our students live, learn, and thrive in an environment that fosters academic excellence, personal growth, and social responsibility.

Join us and be part of a community that inspires every student to achieve their best and make a positive difference in the world.





Independent thinking,
exceptional
outcomes

Stephen Perse Cambridge Junior School
Shaftesbury Road
Cambridge
CB2 8AA

01223 454700 ext: 2000

admissions@stephenperse.com

stephenperse.com