

# 2021/2022 Prospectus



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# A Warm Welcome to Northampton School for Girls



**Cristina Taboada-Naya**  
Headteacher

I would like to warmly welcome you to Northampton School for Girls. We are an ambitious and thriving school, committed to providing a broad, modern, enriching and inspiring education to ensure that all of our students have the confidence, motivation and ambition to succeed within and beyond their time at school. Northampton School for Girls continues to be one of the academically highest achieving schools in the county and this does not happen by chance. We are committed to achieving academic excellence for our students and to ensuring that they flourish personally and make a difference to the world around them: locally, nationally and internationally.

Northampton School for Girls is a truly remarkable school that students and staff are, rightly, proud to be part of. It has a unique vitality that springs into life as students and staff arrive through its doors. Our school is everything but ordinary and our students never fail to impress me with their achievements and the genuine desire they have to help others. They are incredibly talented, industrious, open hearted and courageous and we are unapologetically driven to supporting them to become successful and influential women of the future.

Underpinned by our values of 'Respect for Self, Respect for Others and Respect for Learning', together our staff and students strive to exceed

the limits of their potential through a rigorous and ambitious curriculum which meets the needs of individual learners' talents and interests, building the foundation for their future successes in a fast-changing world. We provide our students an enriching curriculum and an impressive co-curricular offer that builds their character and resilience, whilst also inspiring and enabling them to achieve and become successful, rounded young adults.

From its inception in 1915, Northampton School for Girls has recognised and celebrated everyone as individuals and has also embraced the power of the community. Our students recognise the impact that they have on others and particularly the responsibility that they have to give of their time, talents and charity to the wider community. We foster an environment where students can expand their minds, think flexibly, develop the skills of leadership that they all have within them, and grow as individuals.

We are a school with an impressive reputation, rich cultural diversity and a long-standing track record of success: we are proud to be Northampton School for Girls.

**You are warmly invited to visit us so that you can see our wonderful school for yourself and I very much look forward to welcoming you.**



# Our Facilities



## Specialist facilities



We are home to the impressive 'Spinney Theatre', with capacity to seat 650 people, a state-of-the-art science laboratories, dedicated textile and cookery rooms, drama and dance studios, a music technology suite and multiple music practice rooms as well as a dedicated Sixth Form Centre.



Our Sports facilities are also excellent. As well as the indoor sports hall, the size of two double basketball courts, there are also all-weather sports pitches outside, and other grass pitches which are used by students during the day, and by the community at evenings and weekends. We also have a modern fitness suite used by students.

Northampton School for Girls sits within well-maintained grounds that are invaluable for performing arts, sports, science and nature studies. The buildings are also impressive, set out as a campus style environment. Each building is three or two-storey and a recent reconfiguration of our layout means that each department is now located along its own designated corridor.

## Restaurant

Our restaurant provides a wide choice of food for both breakfast and lunch. Students may eat the restaurant food, which meets the DfE's school food standards, is very good and competitively priced, or bring their own food to eat in the restaurant.

## The Clare Library

This is a well-stocked resource, with the latest books, magazines, and essential resources. It is equipped with banks of fixed computers used for lessons and self-study and laptops that may be loaned out for a lesson.





# Our Aims at NSG



NSG is one of the highest performing schools in Northamptonshire. We consistently enable our students to achieve above average and each year we send students to the best universities in the UK and beyond.

- ✓ We promote a positive attitude to learning, encouraging our students to take responsibility for their own learning and enabling them to make appropriate choices.
- ✓ We provide an environment which celebrates diversity, the pursuit of knowledge, the development of an inquisitive mind and which encourages our girls to become lifelong learners.
- ✓ We expect our students to become confident, articulate individuals with high aspirations and we give the opportunities to help them develop and achieve this.
- ✓ We are committed to excellence in teaching and learning.
- ✓ We delight in celebrating the achievements of our students and staff, recognising progress in all areas of school life.



# We believe that education in a single gender environment has many advantages

They include:

- ✓ A learning environment in which girls feel confident to accept intellectual challenge.
- ✓ Opportunities for all girls to take on leadership roles and responsibilities.
- ✓ A greater willingness by girls to study subjects previously seen as boys' subjects such as Physical Education (PE), Physics, Product Design, Computer Science and Information Communication Technology (ICT).
- ✓ A calm and orderly atmosphere which is polite and respectful.
- ✓ A supportive environment which encourages girls to look after one another.

As a girls' school, we are able to combine an emphasis on traditional values such as responsibility, honesty and respect, with a very high level of pastoral care. We are able to know our students as individuals and build strong relationships based on trust and openness. We have established an ethos in which all members of our community are valued and respected.

We believe that it is very important to build girls' confidence and self-esteem. As a girls' school we are able to nurture our students and help them become reflective young women who value themselves. Our unique learning environment allows us to do this, whilst also providing an intellectually challenging and aspirational academic education. At NSG, we provide an environment where progress and achievement are acknowledged and celebrated with individuals and with the whole student body. Our girls enjoy sharing their own successes and recognising the achievements of others.

The high achievement of our students starts as soon as they join us in year 7. We are firm believers in mixed ability teaching and our results prove that this is the most effective way of ensuring all students exceed their potential. Students are taught in their tutor groups for all subjects at key stage three except Mathematics, Design Technology and French.

As students approach key stage four, they choose which subjects to take as GCSEs. All students study English Language, English Literature, Mathematics and Science. They are supported to make choices in Languages (Spanish and French), Humanities (History, Geography, Ethics and Philosophy), Expressive Arts (Art, Music, Drama, BTEC Dance and BTEC Sport) and Design Technology (Product Design, Textiles, Food Technology, ICT and Computing).

An individualised approach to the curriculum ensures that all students have a combination of subjects best suited to their needs. For example, some students will study a combined science course, where others will study all three sciences separately. Equally, some students will choose two languages, whilst others will opt for one.

Our aim is to ensure that everyone has a curriculum that allows them to flourish. Support with literacy and numeracy, plus qualifications such as the Certificate of Personal Effectiveness means that we can provide a combination of subjects that allows for breadth, challenge and personalisation.

This approach extends into key stage five where enrichment subjects like the Arts Award, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Young Enterprise, the Extended Project and the Community Sports Leaders' Award are offered alongside three A Level or equivalent subjects. For future information about Post 16 study, please request a copy of our Sixth Form Prospectus.

At NSG, we recognise that learning doesn't stop when you leave school. We educate our girls to consider their future choices at every step of their school career and we support these decisions with high quality personal, social and health education (PSHE) and access to a dedicated personal adviser for careers.





# Our School Ethos

Respect for **Self**  
 Respect for **Others**  
 Respect for **Learning**

Our three 'Respects' underpin all aspects of school life: Through strong relationships and a culture of respect, we will nurture and develop each of our girls to become independent, confident, academically successful and responsible individuals who will strive to achieve their very best in all aspects of life.

Our values are held within three 'non-negotiable' aspects which, we believe, are fundamental to the life of our school and which best represent our beliefs in education. These non-negotiables are: high achievement, inclusion and the development of the whole child. The combination of these ideals, along with our heritage of musical excellence, creates a learning environment unique to NSG.





## High Achievement

- We promote a positive attitude to learning, encouraging our girls to take responsibility for their own learning and enabling them to make appropriate choices.
- We provide an environment which celebrates diversity, the pursuit of knowledge, the development of an inquisitive mind and which encourages our girls to become lifelong learners.
- We expect our girls to become confident, articulate individuals with high aspirations and we give the opportunities to help them develop and achieve this.
- We are committed to excellence in teaching and learning. We delight in celebrating the achievements of our students and staff, recognising progress in all areas of school life.



## Inclusion

- We provide a safe, calm and trusting learning environment, where all our girls respect themselves, respect others and respect learning.
- We welcome all students; tailoring the curriculum to best meet the needs of individuals, enabling our girls to reach their potential.
- We believe that all our girls should be happy and enjoy their time in school and we actively work to provide the climate in which this occurs.
- We strive to reveal our girls' potential and guide them towards achieving it. We inspire self-confidence and self-belief in our girls, and ask them to strive for the best they can be in life.
- We never give up on our girls; we trust and believe that all can achieve.



## Development of the Whole Child

- We have a nurturing and caring ethos where all girls belong, feel secure and value the support and guidance offered by all staff in the school.
- We encourage individuality and act on our girls' views. We support our girls on their journey through school, recognising the impact that other aspects of life can have on their personal development.
- We know that working in partnership with families provides the best route to supporting young women in achieving their potential.
- We provide a wide range of extra-curricular activities and opportunities that will enrich the learning experience and encourage our girls to participate in them.





# Our Curriculum

Northampton School for Girls (NSG) is an ambitious and thriving school committed to providing a broad, modern, enriching and inspiring education to ensure that NSG girls have the confidence, independence, motivation and ambition to succeed within and beyond the school. We are a highly inclusive school, committed to achieving academic excellence for our students, ensuring that they flourish personally and make a difference to the world around them: locally, nationally and internationally.

Underpinned by our values of Respect for Self, Respect for Others and Respect for Learning, Northampton School for Girls provides an enriching curriculum alongside an impressive co-curricular offer that builds character and resilience, whilst inspiring and enabling students to achieve and become successful, well-rounded young adults in a fast-changing world.

Within our multi-cultural community, 'Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development', plays an important role. These aspects are covered in 'Personal, Social, Health and Economic' (PSHE) education, enrichment days, social enterprise activities and events, assemblies and tutor activities. Our girls understand what it is to live in a tolerant, diverse society following the laws of the land, to believe in the importance of individual liberty and to enjoy freedom in our democratic country. A wide range of visits and co-curricular activities provide opportunities for our girls to develop as leaders, learn how to communicate under pressure and to encourage and enthuse others. Above all, our girls are not afraid to challenge themselves in order to achieve success.

At Northampton School for Girls, students appreciate the impact that they have on others and particularly the responsibility that they have to give of their time, talents and charity to the wider community. We foster an environment where students can expand their minds, think flexibly, develop the skills of leadership that they all have within them, and grow as individuals





# Respect for **Self**





# School Uniform

- ✓ Grey blazer with NSG logo.
- ✓ White formal shirt (suitable to wear with NSG tie).
- ✓ NSG branded tie.
- ✓ Plain black tailored trousers, full length to the ankle. Black jeans, skinny or tight fitting trousers and leggings are not allowed.
- ✓ Plain black skirt, straight or pleated. This may be tailored but must not be skin tight. Must be knee length.
- ✓ Socks should be black or white. They may be ankle or knee length. Tights must be plain black.
- ✓ Plain black leather shoes or plain black leather trainers. Heels must be a sensible height so that the shoe is comfortable and safe to walk in. No flip flops or open toed shoes. No canvas shoes or canvas trainers.
- ✓ School lanyard and ID card.
- ✓ Students may wear two items of jewellery. Earrings must be studs for safety reasons. We do not allow any form of facial piercing.
- ✓ If worn, religious headwear must be black.





## PE Kit

- ✓ NSG black/white sports polo shirt
- ✓ NSG black/white sports fleece
- ✓ Black shorts and/or track pants
- ✓ Trainers
- ✓ One-piece swimsuit
- ✓ Long black football/hockey socks

## Student Equipment Needs

- A strong bag, large enough to carry books, A4 files and PE kit.
- A pencil case with a range of black/blue pens, pencils, pencil crayons, highlighter, rubber, sharpener, along clear plastic ruler, mathematics equipment including a scientific calculator.
- A refillable water bottle.

## Expectations

- 1 Students will wear full school uniform, as described on the school website, when in school.
- 2 Students will follow the school rules for mobile phone use in school, and will not use their devices between 8:30am and 3:30pm.
- 3 Students will respect their learning environment, keeping the site tidy, moving quickly between lessons and complying with one-way systems and current hygiene rules.
- 4 Students will actively promote our ethos of respect and inclusion, standing up against all forms of discrimination and bullying.
- 5 Students will focus on their learning, completing all work, to the best of their ability, in every lesson. They will ensure all work, electronic and in exercise books, is presented according to the NSG expectations for presentation of work.
- 6 Students will follow instructions given by any member of staff ensuring that everyone is safe and there is no disruption to learning.

# Respect for Others



# The Tutor Group

The tutor group is a core part of NSG. Tutor groups are chosen carefully to represent a balance of abilities, interests and backgrounds.

Girls are taught in tutor groups for the majority of their lessons where they are encouraged to build up strong and supportive relationships with each other. Each tutor group belongs to one of our three Learning Communities: Oak, Elm or Post 16. The Learning Communities were designed to ensure that students feel known and valued in a familiar environment.

# PSHE

We believe that promoting the health and well-being of our pupils is an important part of their overall education at Northampton School for Girls.

We do this through our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) provision, which looks at many topics including all kinds of relationships, physical and emotional health, and living in the wider world. The aim of the PSHE course is to help our pupils make safe and informed decisions during their school years and beyond.

PSHE became a statutory subject in the curriculum in September 2020 and we would like to invite parents to look at the provision offered in our PSHE programme, along with an overview of the key topics being covered. Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is an important part of the PSHE curriculum. We will be teaching lessons about RSE in an appropriate and timely manner based on student's maturity levels; using the correct language to support their understanding. In addition to RSE, students will also explore ways of keeping themselves safe and healthy, learn about financial education and study a careers unit in each year.

PSHE is a compulsory subject, however, it is important to highlight that parents do have the right to withdraw their child from the 'sex education' element of this subject after discussion with the school. Even if a child is withdrawn, many pupils will discuss such issues with each other outside the classroom. We hope all students will have the opportunity to take part in our carefully planned lessons to support them in their understanding of what are often relevant and sensitive topics based on recent statistics and data.

# Care, Welfare and Inclusion

At NSG, we welcome girls of all abilities, religions, ethnicities and backgrounds. We are a truly comprehensive school and we believe that embracing diversity enriches our students' lives. Our pastoral support ensures that each individual student is happy, secure and valued.

We provide a safe, calm and trusting learning environment, where all our girls respect themselves, respect others and respect learning. We welcome all students; tailoring the curriculum to best meet the needs of individuals, enabling our girls to reach their potential.

We believe that all our girls should be happy and enjoy their time in school and we actively work to provide a climate in which this occurs. We strive to reveal our girls' potential and guide them towards achieving it.

We inspire self-confidence and self-belief in our girls, and ask them to strive for the best they can be in life. We never give up on our girls; we trust and believe that each and everyone of them can achieve their best.



## Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Students with special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported in class by well qualified and experienced teachers and Learning Support Assistants.

The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinators (SENDCo) work closely with the parents of students with Education, Health and Care Plans and with other teachers to ensure that each child can progress successfully through the school. Reviews of students' work also takes place regularly. Students who struggle with literacy and numeracy are also supported by specialist teachers.



# Respect for Learning



# Attendance

Full attendance and punctuality at school is of crucial importance if each student is to achieve their potential.

Only by being in school and attending all lessons, every day will each student be able to learn to the best of their ability and achieve success throughout their life. It is a legal requirement that students attend school regularly and it is the responsibility of parents to ensure this.

- Expectations of the School Students will aim for 100% attendance and not fall below 97% attendance.
- Students will come to school every day and attend all lessons.
- Students will arrive at least five minutes before the start of registration each day.
- Students will arrive promptly for all lessons.
- A student's family will telephone/contact the school on the first day of absence as soon as possible and not later than 9.30am when their daughter is ill or send a message through a relative.
- The school will phone home if a student is absent and no message from Parents/ Carers has been received.
- All students must bring a note explaining why and how long they were absent when they return to school.
- Families are expected to give advance notice to school of pre-arranged absence e.g. doctor, dental appointments.
- Families will be contacted if a student is late three times in a half term without good reason and will be asked to address the issue. Persistent lateness will result in further contact with families and a school detention will be issued.





# Outstanding Teaching and Learning

Our core aim is to provide students with educational excellence so that they can access university, higher education, employment or an apprenticeship. We achieve this through the skilful enactment of our well sequenced curriculum, rich in knowledge and skills.

All of our teachers are subject specialists, which means they have a deep knowledge of the curriculum they teach. We also ensure that every teacher is supported in delivering the highest quality teaching to secure the best outcomes for all of our students.

- The needs of all students is met through careful scaffolding, personalised support and targeted questioning.
- New material is presented in a manner that best suits the class, the knowledge and the subject as a whole.
- There is a strong emphasis on retrieval practice, sequencing and interleaving so that students retain what they have been taught in their long-term memory.
- Assessment is threaded throughout to inform planning and to provide highly targeted feedback to deepen understanding and accelerate progress.
- Knowledge organisers are used by each subject to allow students to 'see the bigger picture'. This way they can make explicit links in learning, independently review knowledge and recite core knowledge to support retrieval practice.

# NSG Curriculum Offer

We follow the recommendations of the National Curriculum, ensuring that all statutory requirements are delivered, but go much further than this in the offer and opportunities we provide.

The school day at NSG is split into 6 sessions of 50 minute lessons. There is a 25 minute tutor and assembly time each day.

Further details of the PSHE programme at KS3 and KS4 can be found on our website.

## Key Stage 3

Northampton School for Girls operates a three year KS3 during which girls are taught a broad and balanced curriculum in both mixed ability and banded classes. Final GCSE options are agreed by the end of year 9.

Subject	Year 7 (lessons/ week)	Year 8 (lessons/ week)	Year 9 (lessons/ week)
English	5	4	4
Mathematics	4	4	4
Science	4	4	4
MFL (French or Spanish)	3	3	3
Humanities (Geography, History, EP)	5	5	5
Art	1	1	1
Computer Science	1	1	1
Dance	—	1	1
Design Technology	2	2	2
Drama	1	1	1
Music	1	1	1
PE	2	2	2
PSHE	1 + 5 tutor times	1 + 5 tutor times	1 + 5 tutor times



## Key Stage 4

Students choose two subjects in addition to the core curriculum of English, Maths, Science, Humanities, Languages, PE and PSHE.

Subject	Year 10 (lessons/ week)	Year 11 (lessons/ week)
English	5	5
Mathematics	5	5
Science (Combined or Triple)	6	6
MFL (French or Spanish)	3	3
Humanities (Geography, History, EP)	3	3
Two Options (3 lessons each)	6	6
PE	2	2
PSHE	5 tutor times	5 tutor times

Choices are guided to ensure all students maintain the breadth and balance needed for future pathways.

## Course Options

### Languages

- French
- Spanish

### Humanities

- Geography
- History
- EP

### Sport, Performing & Expressive Arts

- Arts
- Dance BTEC
- Drama
- Music
- Sport BTEC

### Technology

- Computer Science
- Creative iMedia
- Food
- Design Technology
  - Papers & board
  - Textiles
  - Timbers

### Other

- Film
- Health & Social Care



## Key Stage 5

Northampton School for Girls Sixth Form provision is co-educational, admitting boys as well as girls. In Year 12, students select 3 subjects and choose a pathway (indicated below). Where appropriate some students study 4 A Levels.

Each subject is allocated 6 lessons per week, with an additional supervised study programme. All students follow the PSHE and enrichment programmes. Work experience also takes place in Year 12.

The curriculum allocation is as follows:

Subject	Year 12 (lessons/ week)	Year 13 (lessons/ week)
A level (lessons per subject)	6	6
BTEC (lessons per subject)	6	6
Core Maths	4	—
Enrichment	up to 4	up to 4
PSHE & Assembly	5 tutor times	5 tutor times

### A level courses (25 subjects)

Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Computer Science, Dance, Drama, English Language, English Language & Literature, English Literature, Fine Art, Film, French, Geography, History, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Music, Photography, Physics, Politics, Psychology, Product Design, Sociology, Spanish, Textiles.

### BTEC level 3 courses (5 subjects)

Applied Science, Business, Health & Social Care, Protective Services (Double Award — formerly Public Services), Sport.

### Enrichment

Includes: Extended Project Qualification, Core Maths, Young Enterprise, Sports Leaders Award.





# Homework Expectations

Years 7 and 8 are expected to complete 2 to 3 hours of Home Learning each week.

If they complete their homework within this time, they should use the Knowledge Organisers to revisit the topics covered in lessons. They should try to commit this knowledge to memory to support the next steps of learning and for future assessments.

Year 9 are expected to do 45 minutes per subject per night of homework each week.

Allocate 3 nights for Maths, 2 nights for English and Science and 1 night for all other subjects.

Year 10 are expected to complete 10–12 hours of homework per week. The subject time allocations are listed below:

- **English:** 2 hours per week
- **Maths:** 3 hours per week
- **Triple Science:** 3 hours per week
- **Double Science:** 2 hours per week
- **Modern Foreign Languages:** 2 hours per week
- **The Arts** (Art/Drama/Music/ Dance/Film Studies): 2 hours per week
- **Humanities** (Geography/History/Ethics and Philosophy): 2 hours per week
- **BTEC Sport Level 2:** 1 hour per week
- **Technology** (Graphics/ Food Tech/Textiles): 2 hours per week

Year 11 are expected to complete 10–12 hours of homework per week. The subject time allocations are listed below:

- **English:** 2.5 hours per week
- **Maths:** 3 hours per week
- **Triple Science:** 3 hours per week
- **Double Science:** 2 hours per week
- **Modern Foreign Languages:** 2 hours per week
- **The Arts** (Art/Drama/Music/ Dance/Film Studies): 2 hours per week
- **Humanities** (Geography/History/Ethics and Philosophy): 2 hours per week
- **BTEC Sport Level 2:** 1 hour per week
- **Technology** (Graphics/ Food Tech/Textiles): 2 hours per week

# Curriculum

At Northampton School for Girls, students are at the centre of our curriculum model. We are committed to providing a 'traditionally' academic curriculum for our students to ensure they are well prepared for the next stage in their education and are able to access university, apprenticeships or work successfully.

Our curriculum offers a wide breadth of academic subjects, alongside the development of essential skills that ensures our students are empowered to become confident, independent, articulate, emotionally literate and socially astute. We follow the recommendations of the National Curriculum, ensuring that all statutory requirements are delivered, but go much further than this in the offer and opportunities we provide.

An increasing number of students follow the Ebacc and, where appropriate, we provide a bespoke and better suited curriculum for individuals. Progress 8 measures continue to be above national average, increasing year on year, along with attainment, evidencing the success of our curriculum. Class sizes average 26 students across Years 7 to 11.





# Enrichment Opportunities

The academic progress of our girls is paramount, but it is only possible if they are given a range of opportunities to develop the social and emotional aspects of their learning. We want our girls to grow into responsible, caring, active citizens who embrace all that life has to offer.

We have a nurturing and caring ethos where all students feel secure and value the support and guidance offered by staff in the school. We encourage individuality and act on our students' views. We support our students on their journey through school, recognising the impact that other aspects of life can have on their personal development.

We know that working in partnership with families provides the best route to supporting young women in achieving their potential.

We provide a wide range of extra-curricular activities and opportunities that will enrich the learning experience.



# Extension

At NSG we maintain a culture and ethos that champions the needs of the most able students and makes sure they flourish and leave school with the best qualifications. We also know addressing the needs of more able learners raises the achievement for a much wider group of learners.

We work in close partnership with our primary schools to carefully identify the most able students and continue to monitor students throughout their time at NSG so that students who develop into a most able student also benefit from our extension provision.

Starting from the very beginning of Year 7, we provide our most able students with the challenge and enrichment that will be paramount to their academic and personal development.

In the enactment of our academic curriculum; which boasts two languages, three separate sciences (maths, physics and chemistry) and computer science, teachers will set tasks that require students to analyse and evaluate. Work will require students to think deeply and will provide opportunities for students to enjoy the struggle of complex problem solving.

In addition to the taught curriculum, students will access a range of enriching opportunities including; the CREST awards, the debating club, Oxford masterclasses, lunch time lectures, the Extended Project Qualification, and the SSAT student leadership accreditation to name but a few.

As a result of our provision at Key Stage 3 and 4, our most able students will have the qualifications and personal skills and attributes necessary to excel in the facilitating subjects at Key Stage 5. It is these subjects that lead to successful applications to Oxbridge and the Russell Group Universities. Students wishing to take this pathway will be supported by our team of experts in the sixth form to make an exceptional application.



# Enrichment

Extra-curricular activities are an essential feature of a successful school. They help students to use their talents and abilities to the full and to develop interests which will enrich their lives. They build students' confidence and self-esteem.

Each year we aim to provide whole days of enrichment, which may include trips to theatres, art galleries, museums and businesses. During these days there is also the opportunity for girls to experience a wide range of enrichment activities in school. All enrichment activities are carefully organised to support students' learning.

We provide a very wide range of extra-curricular activities at lunch time and after school. A large number of our girls are happy to stay at school until 5pm to take part in these activities. All our girls are encouraged to develop their talents and interests, and also take an active part in school life, for example through the mentoring of younger students or helping out on parents' evening.

# Charity

Our girls show a concern for the welfare of others, both within the school and the wider community. They are energetic and enthusiastic about helping those less fortunate than themselves. Raising money for charity is a core part of school life. Tutor groups and individuals demonstrate their loyalty to a particular charity and inspire others to follow their example.

# The Arts

With The Spinney Theatre as part of our school, our girls have access to a theatre equipped to professional standards. Not only do they benefit from performing in such surroundings, many also become skilled in using sophisticated lighting and sound technology.

We are justifiably proud of our achievements in the expressive and performing arts. Recent events include concerts, jazz evenings, dance shows, musicals and art exhibitions to name just a few. We specialise in music at NSG, and use it as a way of helping our girls express themselves, become confident and enjoy learning.



## Sport

In an all-girl environment, our students embrace sport and enjoy competing. Our girls participate in a vast number of sports teams and clubs, and many represent the school in teams on a county and national level. Our record of achievement in sport is impressive, and our basketball teams are nationally recognised as outstanding.

We believe that sport and the team spirit help to develop the 'whole child', which is why we encourage all of our girls to participate in inter-form matches and our annual sports day.

## Music College

As a music college, we embrace our girls' musical talents and encourage them to participate in one or more of our many music groups, ensembles or clubs. All students are entitled to instrumental lessons, with instruction being provided by our team of peripatetic music teachers. Music plays a key role in the life of the school. Live music is encouraged in each of our Learning Communities and open-air musical performances during the school day are enjoyed by all. Many of our most able musicians are supported in achieving places at music colleges and conservatoires around the country. Our musical ensembles play and compete on a national level and have received countless awards and accolades.





# Our School Day

The school day at NSG is split into 6 sessions of 50 minute lessons, with a 25 minute break in the morning and 45 minutes for lunch.

During this time, students partake in many clubs and activities. There is a 25 minute tutor time and assembly time each day. Students are able to stay after school from Monday to Friday until 4.45pm to take part in extra-curricular activities or to study in the libraries.



# The Sixth Form



# THE SIXTH FORM

at Northampton School for Girls

The 16–18 phase of education is the most exciting stage of your education to date. Here at The Sixth Form we give everyone the opportunity to develop their academic potential to the full, to make firm friendships, and to play an important role in the whole school community.

Our commitment to ‘achieving personal bests’ underpins all that we do — academically and pastorally. We believe our students are role models; both to their peers and to staff in our school community and we take every opportunity to celebrate their successes.

Life at The Sixth Form is varied, vibrant, inspiring and fulfilling. There are opportunities to take part

in an array of interesting enrichment activities that both enhance your applications for post-18 pathways and develop the skills needed for later life. You will also benefit from expert post-18 support and careers guidance, so the informed choices you make about your future pathway are right for you, as an individual.

If you strive for your own personal bests and take on board the opportunities that are on offer, you will be very well prepared for whatever route you choose post-18: university, apprenticeship or paid work. At every point along the way you will be fully supported in your aspirations and wellbeing by our team of committed subject teachers and pastoral staff.

We want our sixth form students to leave us as ambitious, responsible and inspiring individuals, equipped with the necessary skills for their chosen future plans, and having achieved their personal bests throughout their sixth form journey.

# Student life

Studying at The Sixth Form provides students with the opportunity to develop their own interests by concentrating on and studying in-depth the subjects they enjoy.

Learning at this level involves greater contribution from the students, with smaller teaching groups allowing full participation in lively and interesting discussions about the topics being studied. Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own work within a secure framework of support, encouragement and guidance from their subject teachers and tutors. Student programmes of study are designed to enable maximum progress, with three different pathways available: offering BTEC only, BTEC and A Level or A Level only study. We offer a wide range of subjects and pride ourselves on preparing students well for their life after NSG.

The emphasis at The Sixth Form is on providing tailored support and ensuring that each individual student achieves their full potential. We aim to enable you to:

- achieve highly and challenge the way you think
- develop leadership skills
- learn new skills in a supportive environment
- develop your confidence and celebrate your success
- become independent learners and take ownership of your education
- experience new activities and improve existing talents



# Relationship with Parents

At Northampton School for Girls, we put a tremendous amount of emphasis on parental involvement in their child's education. Educational research shows the beneficial effects this has.

A positive partnership between the school and parents, with active parental involvement, helps students' personal, academic and spiritual development during their vital years in school.





We pride ourselves in the close partnerships that we have with our students' families and recognises that parents are as important as teachers in:

- monitoring learning — regularly discussing learning, homework and attainment with their child
- fostering values and good character — supporting their child's personal development and encouraging them to develop a positive character
- supporting an organised approach — helping their child to be organised for success, by having all the right equipment and uniform and by being in the right place at the right time
- motivating and raising aspirations — motivating their child and encouraging them to fulfil the potential with which they have been blessed.

We believe that our partnership approach to working with parents plays a huge part in the success of our students at Northampton School for Girls. Our commitment to pastoral care and to ensuring that every student gets personal attention means that parents can be assured that their children will flourish in our safe and secure learning environment.



## Communicating Progress

Student success is achieved through robust and aspirational target setting and close tracking of progress at all levels — supported by real-time attainment and behaviour data. In order to keep parents informed of their child's progress and behaviour, the school provides:

- Regular reports shared electronically.
- Consultation evenings to review progress and set targets.
- A performance review meeting with a school leader each half term to review each child's progress, if their levels/grades are below nationally expected averages.

We expect all parents/carers to attend the Consultation evenings to which they have been invited.

## Regular Communications

An effective partnership relies on high quality communication and we are committed to regular, accurate, useful communications with our parents and carers. The Headteacher sends regular and timely correspondence to parents and, similarly, there is regular communication from the Heads of Year and key personnel from the school.

We welcome parents and carers contacting the school and do all we can to help with your questions and enquiries. Our website is reviewed and updated regularly and is the main source of news and information about the school. As well as this, we have several social media channels that we use to provide updates and share information about life at the school.

**Northampton School for Girls**

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