



OXFORD  
HIGH SCHOOL

GDST  
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST



Sixth Form

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## Oxford High Sixth Form

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We know that our Oxford High Sixth Formers will become leaders in their chosen fields. One glance at our illustrious and diverse alumnae will show you the creative, entrepreneurial and intellectual drive that is characteristic of all our former students. How do they and we achieve this?

We believe it is because we adhere to the key principle of putting girls first. What does that mean in practice?

It means that you can be yourself during your time here. Your teachers and tutors know you as an individual and build strong, supportive relationships with you during your time at OHS. Your studies are tailored to you and offer academic challenge in abundance in and out of the classroom. You have ownership over your studies and your time and many opportunities to develop your leadership in and out of school.

Chloe, an HSBC Scholar and Year 13 Leaver in 2018, receiving her A Level results on her 18th birthday.





## What makes us different?

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We are the only senior school in Oxford to have achieved an ISI rating of Exceptional for the quality of students' achievements. This means that our pastoral care and academic outcomes are judged to be of an equally high standard. Girls love our warm, relaxed and friendly atmosphere, the strong relationships with tutors and the innovative tools we put in place to support their well-being in school.

OHS Sixth Formers enjoy more of a campus lifestyle, dressing as undergraduates instead of feeling constrained in business suits and classrooms. The neighbourhood of Summertown is on your doorstep and you have the freedom to manage your own time whether that is nipping over to the Ferry Centre gym (your pass is funded by OHS), or catching up with friends over coffee between tutorials and seminars. Our A Level class sizes are kept purposefully small, ranging from about 2 to 14 students depending on the subject you are taking and, from spring 2020, Sixth Formers will have a brand-new, contemporary building that reflects OHS's reputation as the leading educator of girls.

When joining our Sixth Form, you will be given a Chromebook for your own personal use, pre-loaded with key software and you will become part of a vertical tutor group with both Year 13 and Year 12 students mixed together and sharing common experiences for the duration of your time at OHS. You will enjoy both timetabled and co-curricular sport across a huge range of different sporting activities including Sixth Form-only swimming in our 25 meter pool, football and refereeing, hockey, netball, athletics, cricket, cross fit, squash, badminton, sailing, and Zumba, to name but a few!

## The 360 Programme for Sixth Form

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The 360 Programme is a rounded 360 degree view of the skills, mental agility and well-being that today's young women need for success. We help you prepare for when you leave school to take up your place at leading universities in the UK and beyond and for when you enter the workplace in our highly-competitive global economy.

It has three strands: Academics, Horizons, and Perspectives.



## Academics

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Academic rigour is central to The 360 Programme. We build a personalised timetable around your choice of A Level subjects. There are no rigid subject 'blocks' for the A Levels you choose because we want to nurture your love of learning in the areas that interest you and there are 26 subjects on offer for you to choose from.

Oxford High's academic reputation is well-known. In 2017, our girls achieved 40% A\* at A Level and we have a consistently high success rate in acceptance for Medics at university. In 2017, this was 10% of the year group. 1 in 4 girls regularly goes onto Oxbridge and 85% to 90% of our leavers secure places at Russell Group universities. We are proud of all our leavers whether they are going on to study Fashion at Bournemouth or Natural Sciences at Cambridge and our most important measure of success is the percentage of girls gaining a place at their first choice destination for their desired course of study.

Complementing your A Level studies is Oxford High School's Extended Research Project which gives you the chance to study a chosen topic in depth and to demonstrate intellectual curiosity, independent learning and initiative – all skills which are highly valued by leading universities in the UK and abroad. Choose whatever subject intrigues you, and throughout your research, you will receive guidance from a supervisor in school as well as experts from the University of Oxford and other leading institutions.

## Horizons

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We believe it is important to help you develop the academic and transferable skills needed for success at university and beyond. Our collaboration with the West London schools in the Girls' Day School Trust (GDST) family, with educational and industry partners plus leading Russell Group universities enables us to offer you an understanding-based approach to study and university-style learning on a daily basis.

Through the GDST's Careerstart Programme you will have access to a wide range of Internships and Insight Days at global companies such as Siemens, Rolls Royce and Barclays. Within OHS, you can lead our consistently high-achieving Young Enterprise teams who have won year-on-year at county, regional and higher levels. Academia combined with entrepreneurship is a real feature of OHS alumnae.

Our Sixth Form Scholars' Programme, known as OWLS and run in collaboration with scholars and staff at Wimbledon High School, brings together academic and STEM scholars and exhibition holders from both sixth forms to engage in academic research, discussion and collaboration. Established to create a community of scholars, it gives students the opportunity to expand their horizons beyond the scope of A Level study. Working individually and collaboratively, students produce a range of pieces based on challenging assumptions and analysing aspects of their chosen areas from different angles. Their work is published in an on-line journal, OWLS Quarterly, and leading academics from highly-ranked Russell Group universities and other centres of excellence in the UK contribute to each edition. It also offers you a chance to get to know your peers from within the GDST family through a programme of interactive sessions, virtual meets and a residential symposium hosted at Murray Edwards College, University of Cambridge.



## Perspectives

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Our Perspectives strand focuses on nurturing a sense of self-awareness, personal influence and a wider understanding of your place in the world. You begin to understand your potential impact in your three spheres of influence; yourselves, your community and the wider world.

The programme includes a Lecture Series offering a world view of political, economic and humanitarian issues, and a structured range of educational visits. Students focus on aspects of well-being for both mind and body, through a range of visiting speakers, tutor-group based activities and discussions. Timetabled sport, leadership and volunteering opportunities abound including involvement in social enterprise and the charitable sector. Oxford High School has exceptional and wide-ranging connections with Oxford and other leading universities including extensive input from our parents, our alumnae and the Girls' Day School Trust.

The GDST Alumnae Mentoring Programme is a unique programme which matches each Oxford High Sixth Form student with a GDST young alumna. Your dedicated mentor is on hand throughout your time in the Sixth Form to give you advice about A Level study, university choices and life at university. This mentoring and networking support continues on campus during your undergraduate life and into your career-building years. All OHS Sixth Formers are automatically members of the GDST Alumnae Network, a family of over 70,000 alumnae and this mentoring programme is your first step to building your lifelong network.

Our partnership with the Open University's digital platform, FutureLearn, gives OHS Sixth Formers a unique and innovative on-line MOOC-style course which focuses on how to make the transition from school to university smoothly and prepares you for life beyond school with topics such as budgeting, time management, interview and negotiation skills.





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