




Parliament Hill School
HIGH ACHIEVING AND HAPPY

Parliament Hill School is situated in North West London, on a stunning site located on the edge of Hampstead Heath. This idyllic location provides an exceptional learning environment within our newly renovated campus. We have a strong track record of excellent academic outcomes with results that are well above the local and national average.



Our Mission

Our feminist mission is to enable every student to forge a strong identity, empowered to make their mark in the world.

We are proud to be a centre of excellence and innovation for girls' education.

We nurture aspirations and support each student to discover their dreams and ambitions. We empower girls to take risks and to develop the confidence, leadership

attributes, and cooperative relationships that enable them to flourish academically, socially and personally.

Students are educated to be inclusive global citizens, enabled to speak out, and make a positive difference to the world now and in the future.

We believe that achievement and happiness are inextricably linked and we are committed to enabling both.

“My daughter has settled in really well. The resources are fantastic, having access to materials, equipment and specialised teaching staff. The Art Department is amazing and encourages creativity and freedom of expression. There is a strong sense of community and diversity as well as female solidarity; the girls are made to feel like they can do anything and be anything they want to be. Also, my daughter has formed some wonderful new friendships. The way the forms and classes are structured means her social development is thriving.”

Parent



Headteacher's Welcome

Parliament Hill is an exceptional, vibrant and exciting learning community where all girls are enabled to grow and succeed. Located on a beautiful site on the edge of Hampstead Heath, we provide a peaceful and secure environment for rich and stimulating learning experiences.

Proud of our distinctive character as a diverse and fully comprehensive girls' school, we value individuality and celebrate the relationships that make us a uniquely positive and supportive school community. We have an unswerving commitment to our inclusive culture and a well-established reputation for providing an education of the highest academic quality for girls.

Our motto, which runs as a golden thread through everything we do, captures our essential ethos: we are a High Achieving and Happy school. At Parliament Hill, we understand the opportunities and challenges of being a young woman in today's changing world. Building on our strong history, we empower our students to take advantage of every opportunity to enhance their lives. Our Feminist Orchard symbolises our deep-rooted commitment to growth and success.

Aiming to be a world class centre for excellence and innovation for girls' education, our academic and creative curriculum is distinctive and tailored to our context. We are extremely proud of our very strong track record of student achievement and stellar examination results.

Highly successful in developing confident, articulate and independent learners, Parliament Hill students are motivated to achieve now and in the future.

Parliament Hill is part of LaSWAP, a long established and very successful sixth form consortium which enables our students to access a wide range of subject expertise. A high number of students gain places at Russell Group universities, including Oxbridge, and students benefit from excellent preparation and guidance on applying to the universities of their choice.

Our extensive enrichment programme acknowledges the importance of a wider education, giving students valuable opportunities to grow and discover their passions and interests. Striving to develop future leaders, Parliament Hill has a long tradition of helping others in our school, our local community and around the world. We expect everybody to participate actively, to show kindness and to be considerate towards others and our environment. I hope that you enjoy finding out more about us through this prospectus, and that you will take the opportunity to visit our high achieving and happy school community.

Sarah Creasey
Headteacher



New Campus

Our extensive renovations have transformed the school site and our learning environment. Sympathetically designed to connect the historic architecture with the contemporary buildings, the seamless bridge reflects our close ties with past students and our enthusiasm to embrace our new cohort each academic year.

All new classrooms in the Kite Building have been designed with generous windows overlooking the green landscaped grounds outside, which encourage calm, thoughtful spaces to learn and create.

The state-of-the-art science faculty received a Wolfson Foundation grant meaning brand new equipment, and the latest apparatus is available to every student. Practical lessons are as intrinsic to young learners as they are to professional researchers, and our fresh laboratories contribute to a rich scholarly setting.

Lunch is taken in our spacious, vaulted main hall where students enjoy healthy and varied lunches daily, before making the most of the grounds and outdoor facilities; including multi use games areas, sustainable timber earth pods and picnic tables, the field and the orchard.

Our all new library has been boldly decorated by artist Matt Dosa. The space provides so much more than just classic and newly released books. It includes a quiet area, a careers library, the media hub and space for revision, study and clubs. The library also houses the school archive which is rich with our history. The Virago Special Collection celebrates writing by women, championing women's voices across every genre of writing.

Design Technology, in our brand new workshop, is a popular subject at Parliament Hill, leading to exceptional outcomes. Our team of excellent specialist teachers have supported students to win prestigious Arkwright Scholarships and places on competitive

further and higher education design courses. Girls from Year 7 onwards are encouraged to work with textiles, 3D printers, laser cutters as well as traditional hand tools, machine tools and drills to manufacture items from conception through to design and production.

The drama department has close ties with some of London's most reputable theatre companies and benefits from a spacious double-height, expandable studio. Students who discover their passion for acting and production roles will thrive in this centre for theatrical stagecraft. The annual production collaborates with the dance and music departments and is a much anticipated part of the Parliament Hill calendar.

High Quality Teaching and Learning

Parliament Hill School is proud of its highly qualified teachers who provide excellent learning opportunities for students from Years 7 to 13.

Parliament Hill students are supported and challenged to become resilient, curious, independent learners who are ready for Sixth Form and university. We encourage risk-taking and perseverance, welcoming mistakes as opportunities to learn in a supportive environment. We believe that teachers who are passionate about their subject are best placed to inspire young people. Depth of knowledge and expertise enable our teachers to provide learning experiences beyond the curriculum and this, along with our high expectations of every student, contributes to our success in securing top grades and excellent progress at GCSE and A Level.

Visitors consistently identify staff subject knowledge and teaching expertise as key to students' exceptional engagement and attitudes to learning. We support teachers in continuing to develop their subject knowledge and expertise, knowing this has such a positive impact on students' achievement.

Year 7 Student

“The thing I love about Parli is that no matter who we are, where we are from, we will be treated equally, as if we are already heroes.”

The Parli Curriculum

Our aim is for all students to leave Parliament Hill well-prepared and qualified, feeling confident to pursue their interests and dreams. In Year 9, students and parents will be guided to select the best individual curriculum pathway to promote high achievement and provide access to the top universities.

Parliament Hill is an academic school. At Parliament Hill, students are encouraged to pursue STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) and to develop a love for English, modern foreign languages and humanities. Alongside this, the arts & creativity are equally valued and nurtured.

Our curriculum enables students to develop skills and knowledge in all areas before specialising at Sixth Form. We believe that breadth really matters and encourage students to enjoy a full range of subjects for as long as possible.

In Year 7 to 9, students will study

- Art & Design
- Design Technology
- Citizenship (including personal, social, and health education)
- Computer Science
- Drama
- English
- Food & Nutrition
- French or Spanish
- Geography
- History
- Maths
- Music
- Physical Education, including Dance
- Religious Education (which incorporates elements of philosophy)
- Sciences (Chemistry, Biology and Physics)

In Year 10 and 11

On average, students gain nine GCSEs selecting from the subjects above, plus additional subjects including Media and Business Studies. We also offer Health Care and Early Years BTEC or a Child Development qualification.

Our subject results and progress scores are in the top 5% nationally.

GCSE uptake of the three Sciences is a source of pride and we are delighted by the exceptionally high numbers of students who go on to study Sciences in LaSWAP, the Sixth Form Consortium.

Students are encouraged to sit a CGSE in a community language if they have the oral and written skills required.





Beyond the Curriculum

Success and happiness are about more than academic excellence. At Parliament Hill, we believe that high achievement and happiness go hand in hand. We provide a wide range of opportunities for students to build confidence, discover new interests and develop the skills they need to thrive both in and beyond the classroom.

We pride ourselves on excellent standards of achievement, while also ensuring that our students have the confidence and motivation to succeed in all areas of their lives and become socially engaged citizens. Our rich programme of clubs and enrichment plays an important role in supporting students' wellbeing, confidence, creativity, sense of belonging and skills development.

Our clubs and enrichment offer changes every half term, providing students with a wide range of opportunities at lunchtime and after school. We also provide Parli Plus, an after-school programme offering students the opportunity to receive support with home learning in a supportive environment. Everyone is welcome to attend our clubs and activities.

Examples of the many clubs and activities on offer include:

- Debate Mate, including national competitions
- Creative Writing
- Football, Sports and Fitness Clubs
- Climate Action Group
- Nature and Gardening Club
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Annual Musical Theatre Production
- Prop making
- Orchestra, Choir, Brass Band, String Quartets and Jazz Band, with opportunities to perform in venues ranging from the Royal Albert Hall to Lauderdale House.

Sports for a Lifetime

Sport is thriving at Parliament Hill. We want every student to experience the enjoyment, challenge and sense of achievement that come from being active, while developing healthy habits that can last a lifetime. The PE and Dance department delivers exciting, inclusive and challenging lessons so that every student can experience the enjoyment of sport and movement. The success of our Parliament Hill sports teams is a source of great celebration. We participate in the Camden Shield every year, competing against other state schools across Camden.

Our teams compete in Football, Basketball, Netball, Rounders and Athletics, including Cross Country and Track and Field. Our clubs change every half term, providing variety and allowing students to explore different activities. Students can usually choose from Netball, Football, Basketball, Trampolining, Table Tennis, Rounders and Dodgeball.

Happiness and Well-being

Happiness is at the heart of our school community. Students are at the heart of everything we do and every decision we make. We are at the hub of a vibrant and diverse community which we celebrate and value. We foster mutual respect and positive relationships, enabling students to develop healthy friendships and feel a strong sense of belonging. Our student action groups co-plan events and play an active role in shaping our school community. We celebrate the diversity of our community and ensure that every individual feels seen, heard and valued. We want every student to feel that they belong, to discover what makes them happy, and to have the confidence and opportunities to thrive, achieve and flourish.

Visiting Teacher

"I love how the girls take care of each other."

Pastoral Support

At Parliament Hill, your daughter will be both physically and emotionally guided. It is the essential foundation upon which learning takes place. In Year 7, she will be cared for pastorally by both her Form Tutor and her Achievement Team Leader, who have the skills to nurture students arriving from primary school. These familiar faces will continue to coach your daughter all the way through until Year 11, providing consistency and security.

Each Achievement Team Leader works alongside a member of the Senior Leadership Team with many years of experience in supporting, stretching and developing girls into the young women they will become.

Parliament Hill employs a Well-Being Project Manager who runs an appointment service five days a week and oversees the work of the art therapists and counsellors as well as running workshops for both students and parents. Our ethos ensures students care for each other and develop strategies to manage their well-being, while striving to be happy and high achieving.

We are one of the few schools to offer Citizenship as a discrete subject in order to prepare students well for life's challenges. In Year 7, students learn about democracy and the importance of valuing diversity as well as preparing them sensitively for puberty and nurturing healthy friendships.

A programme of tutor periods, assemblies, enrichment days, visiting speakers and opportunities to engage positively in community work ensure students build a personal portfolio ready for university application as well as enjoying themselves along the way.

Challenge for All

Parliament Hill has an excellent reputation for its high-quality provision. We believe all students have the potential to excel in learning. Your daughter will be both supported and challenged in the classroom, whatever her individual need or starting point. Outcomes are excellent, with well over 40% of all GCSE grades at levels 9 to 7 over recent years – a remarkable achievement in our truly comprehensive school.

We also offer a wide range of extra and co-curricular opportunities designed to enrich the curriculum and enable students to develop potential talents and experience success. Outside of in-school provision, we work with a wide range of external organisations. Through the Morrisby programme, students' strengths are identified and matched to potential higher education and career choices. Our partnership with The Brilliant Club, through their Scholars Programme, allows students to experience university-style learning on challenging courses, taught by a world class researcher.

Excelling with Additional Educational Needs

Our Inclusion Team is skilled, experienced and dedicated to securing the best outcomes and opportunities for students who have additional learning needs. All Year 7 students are assessed using Cognitive Abilities Tests plus a reading and spelling test to help us ensure appropriate support from the start of their time with us.

We invite all parents whose daughters have a SEND profile to meet with a member of the Inclusion Team at parents' evenings and offer further contact throughout the year. Every student on the SEND profile has a personalised plan outlining her strengths, needs and strategies for support.





Leaders of the Future

Student leadership is an integral part of Parliament Hill. There are many opportunities for students to take on a leadership role.

For example:

- The Student Council meets weekly and is a vital part of school decision making.
- The Junior Leadership Team is a group of Year 10 and 11 students who contribute to other student leadership groups within the school.
- Student co-planners work in partnership with teachers to plan lessons. Feedback is resoundingly positive. Teachers value the students' perspective and students build their confidence, managerial and communication skills.
- Student Interviewers are involved in staff recruitment. This develops a range of skills that are transferable when applying for university and jobs in the future.
- The award-winning Climate Action Group meet weekly and are responsible for our feminist orchard. They pave the way for future innovation at the school, addressing ecological awareness. The group has gained recognition by The Tree Council and won the prestigious London Sustainable Schools Award.
- Year 10 participate in the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge. We have been very successful with many winners over the years including at a national level.
- During their time at Parliament Hill, *all* students take part in First Give, a programme designed to build a stronger community and upskill future leaders.
- We run a weekly afterschool debating club, supported by Power of Initiative. Students hone their debating skills, and compete against other London schools.

Parliament Hill Parents

One of our most valued partnerships is with parents. Parents receive a warm welcome from staff and from the Parents' Association (Parli People) with opportunities to become part of school life. We will keep you well-informed about your daughter's learning and progress, starting with an early meeting in Year 7 with all your daughter's teachers and her Form Tutor to discuss how she is settling in and her progress in each subject. Parliament Hill runs a variety of workshops for parents, providing a wonderful model of life-long learning for students and a chance to find out how best to support young people.

Typical topics are:

- Year 7 Big Breakfasts to support year 7 transition
- Living with teenagers
- Revision skills for parents
- Moving into the GCSE years
- Applying for Oxbridge

Promoting Scholarly Collaborations

Parliament Hill students benefit from our involvement with schools in Camden, London, across the UK and internationally. Our excellent reputation for continuing professional development creates a dynamic community of professionals who learn from and with us, as well as challenging our thinking to raise achievement even further. The opportunities provided are aligned to the Department for Education's 'Golden Thread' of professional learning.

Some examples include-

- Running Camden-wide programmes for each individual member of staff from teachers to support staff.
- Working with external consultants as part of our Maximising Teaching Programme.
- Delivering exemplary training and development for teachers who are new to the profession.
- Leading professional hubs in subjects like Mathematics and co-leading the Well-Being Hub with the Royal Free Hospital School.

Ofsted

“Students’ behaviour is outstanding.
They feel very safe, and are proud and
happy to be at the school.”

Parliament Hill at LaSWAP – the Sixth Form of Choice

LaSWAP is one of the largest Sixth Form Consortiums in the UK and is a post 16 collaboration between the four schools, (William Ellis, Acland Burghley, La Sainte Union and ourselves). It enables us to offer an excellent choice of high-quality post-16 courses: close to 40 A-level subjects and a range of Level 2 BTEC and Level 3 vocational courses. We offer subjects in almost any combination which is not possible in a single-centre Sixth Form.

Sixth Formers are encouraged to take part in the Extended Project Qualification or Core Maths which enhances their independent study skills and is highly regarded by universities.

The majority of Year 11 students go on to ‘Parliament Hill at LaSWAP’, allowing us to build on our knowledge of students’ strengths and learning needs so we can provide exceptional stretch and challenge from the outset. The consortium provides a campus atmosphere, successfully bridging the gap between school and university.

We are proud of our strong track record of sending students to universities including Oxbridge, veterinary college and medical school as well as to top arts colleges.

Post-16 Enrichment Opportunities

Enrichment is central to life in the Sixth Form as it builds experiences and knowledge for applying to university.

Examples include:

- Taster days at Universities
- Oxbridge and medical school support programme and 1:1 guidance and mock interviews
- Attending under-graduate level talks by visiting speakers
- A range of sports
- Duke of Edinburgh Awards
- Leadership opportunities, e.g. Sixth Form ambassadors and running clubs
- Choir
- Theatre trips
- Ski trip



Find out more



Parliament Hill School

To find out about our open days and opportunities to visit the school, please contact us at

enquiries@parliamenthill.camden.sch.uk

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Ofsted Report



Camden School
Report Card



How to Apply






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