

FORTITUDINE CRESCAMUS

Newstead Wood School

"creating opportunities for success"

Prospectus

A highly selective girls' state secondary school, with a co-educational Sixth Form.





Welcome from the Head

It is a privilege to be the Head of such a wonderful school community. Each and every day our students impress me with their humour, enthusiasm and dedication and I leave school each evening feeling proud and with a smile on my face. Our students at Newstead Wood School are exceptional.

We know that education is not just about what happens in the classroom. The moment you walk through our doors, not only will you be astounded by the academic ability of our students, but you will be blown away by the plethora of opportunities on offer to our students.

When you visit Newstead you will soon become aware of the warmth and kindness shown between members of the community. You will also see the passion for learning and the spirit to embrace new opportunities and challenges.

Underpinned by a first class pastoral system, I know we have all the ingredients for an excellent education in its widest sense. Our students are fully equipped to take their place in the world, and to go forward to make the world a better place. Our outstanding support and care for students was recognised in our most recent Ofsted inspection, along with the diverse range of opportunities for enrichment.

I hope you will find the information within our website useful, and that it gives you a good feel for our school, its remarkable students and staff, as well as its achievements, values and ambitions.

However, the best way to experience what Newstead Wood School has to offer is to visit us. I very much hope that we will have the opportunity of welcoming you to Newstead in person, but in the meantime please feel free to contact either myself or the school office on any matter.

About us

Newstead Wood School, originally Orpington Grammar School for Girls, opened in September 1954. Since then, we've grown significantly, now boasting six forms of entry per year and modern facilities including a Sixth Form block, Music Block, Technology Block, Sports Hall, and Tennis Centre. Guided by our motto, Fortitudine Crescamus ('May we grow in strength'), Newstead Wood School has a proud tradition of excellence. When new students join us, they are placed in a House corresponding to their form group, creating immediate connections and a sense of identity within the school. We take pride in fostering a strong sense of community and belonging among our students and staff. To achieve this, every member of our school family is assigned to one of our six Houses: Nightingale, Wren, Swift, Falcon, Griffin, and Phoenix.

Our school is built on a tradition of academic excellence, supported by a nurturing environment and rich co-curricular activities. We offer unique opportunities, including trips to Japan, Iceland, Borneo, France and Germany, and electives in film and photography, classical civilisation and fencing. We are committed to fostering resilience, balancing academics with sports, music, and culture, and providing comprehensive support for careers and university applications. Newstead Wood School excels in meeting the needs of highly able students through both our curriculum and broader educational experiences.

Newstead Wood has consistently been rated "Outstanding" by Ofsted, with our most recent inspection in 2022. The school's academic excellence is well recognised, consistently ranking highly in the Sunday Times Parent Power rankings.





Ethos and Values

Newstead Wood School is a community where students belong, thrive and achieve.

CHARACTER

Character is thefoundationof all success. We developstudents who act with purpose, integrity, and care for others.

We shape individuals of strong moral purpose, who act with courage, empathy, and responsibility.

Integrity: doing what is right, even when it is difficult
Honesty: speaking truthfully and acting transparently
Compassion: showing empathy, kindness, and humanity
Inclusivity: valuing diversity and ensuring everyone belongs
Service: contributing meaningfully to others and the community
Confidence: believing in one's voice and identity
Tenacity: persisting through challenge and adversity
Resilience: recovering, adapting, and growing stronger
Reflection: thinking deeply to improve and develop

EXCELLENCE

Excellenceisahabit.Itis built through discipline, curiosity, and a commitment to continual improvement

We pursue excellence with discipline and curiosity, striving always to improve and achieve our best.

Academic Rigour: deep knowledge, critical thinking, intellectual curiosity
Literacy: articulate communication, reading with insight, writing with clarity
Numeracy: confidence and precision in mathematical thinking
Priority Setting: focusing on what matters most
Time Management: organisation, discipline, and accountability
Collaboration: working effectively and respectfully with others
Creativity: innovation, originality, and problem-solving
Personal development: maintaining balance, wellbeing, and positivity

BELONGING

LEADERSHIP

Leadershipis notaposition;itis a practice. Every student is prepared to lead - in thought, action, and service.

We develop courageous leaders who act with purpose, influence others positively, and contribute to society.

Communication: developing strong oracy and presentation skills - speaking with clarity, confidence and purpose
Initiative: taking responsibility, solving problems independently and seeking opportunities to improve
Leadership in Every Role: from classroom to community, everyone leads
Developing Others: mentoring, coaching, and lifting those around you
Theory into Practice: applying knowledge to real-world challenges
From Small Teams to Society: building leaders, scaling impact to public service and industry

"Character First. Excellence Always. Leadership for Life."



Curriculum

The curriculum at Newstead Wood School is developed with a focus on nurturing and enhancing students' academic potential, alongside an extensive enrichment programme and supportive pastoral system.

Key Stage 3
Year 7-9

Art
Computer Science
Drama
English
French*
German*
Spanish*
Geography
History
Mathematics
Music
Personal Development Curriculum (PSHE, Foundation Studies, Enterprise, First Give, Performing Arts)
Physical Education
Religion Philosophy and Ethics (RPE) Science

Twilight languages for KS3-KS4 (subject to payment)
Latin
Mandarin
Japanese

*Students study two modern foreign languages

Key Stage 4
Year 10-11

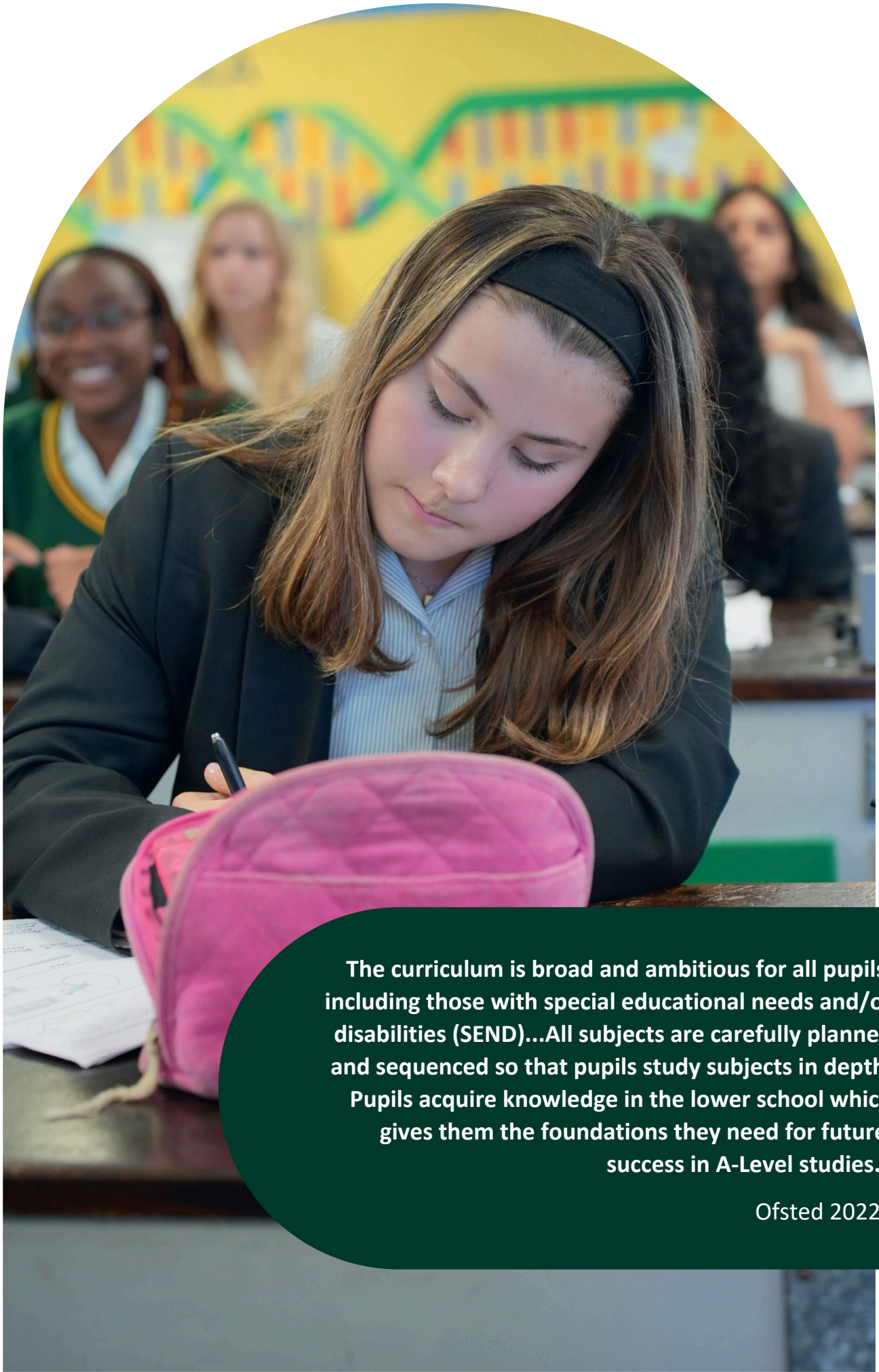
Compulsory Subjects
English Literature
English Language
Mathematics
PSHE
Chemistry
Biology
Physics
RPE
Core PE

Option Subjects (select 3)
Art
Computer Science
Drama
French
German
Spanish
Geography
History
Music
GCSE Physical Education
Food Preparation & Nutrition
Design Technology & Engineering
Textiles

Elective enrichment programme (includes GCSE Environmental Management and GCSE Statistics)

Key Stage 5
Year 12-13

Art
Art & Design: Textiles
Biology
Chemistry
Classical Civilisation
Computer Science
Core Mathematics
DT: Design Engineering
DT: Product Design
Drama & Theatre Studies
Economics
English Literature
French
Geography
German
History
Mathematics
Further Mathematics
Music
Physics
Physical Education
Politics
Psychology
Religion, Philosophy & Ethics
Spanish



The curriculum is broad and ambitious for all pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)...All subjects are carefully planned and sequenced so that pupils study subjects in depth. Pupils acquire knowledge in the lower school which gives them the foundations they need for future success in A-Level studies.

Ofsted 2022

Academic Excellence

GCSE Results 2025

47%
Awarded Grade 9

73%
Awarded Grade 9-8

89%
Awarded Grade 7,8,9

82.35
Average Point Score

A Level Results 2025

79%
Awarded Grade A* - B

50%
Awarded Grade A* - A

93%
Awarded Grade A* - C

Leavers Destinations 2025

Newstead Wood School stands as a beacon of academic excellence and student success, consistently nurturing talents that flourish both academically and professionally. Our school boasts an impressive track record of exceptional results, with students achieving top grades and securing places at prestigious universities.

Our commitment to excellence and fostering a culture of ambition and resilience ensures that each student is well-prepared to achieve their full potential and make a positive impact in their chosen paths.

Most popular university destinations 2025:

University of Cambridge
University of Oxford
Kings College London
Imperial College London
London School of Economics
University College London
Queen Mary University
University of Bristol
University of Birmingham
University of Nottingham
University of Southampton
University of Warwick
University of Leeds
University of York
Durham University

Students chose a wide range of subjects. The most popular choices were Medicine, Sciences, Computer Science, Engineering, Politics and Economics and Law but courses covered the whole range of the curriculum: Arts, Humanities, Languages, Psychology and vocational options.

89%

Go to university and the rest take a gap year, apprenticeship or employment

66%

Go to a Russell Group university

7%

study Medicine, Veterinary and Dentistry



Pupils thrive here. They are happy and safe in the school's nurturing environment.

Ofsted



Broadening Horizons

At Newstead Wood, learning extends beyond classrooms with diverse local, national, and international trips, including skiing, outdoor education, expeditions, and cultural visits. Subject-specific journeys and residential trips enrich students' experiences.

Leadership opportunities abound through house competitions, sports, and foundation studies. This epitomises the students' journey at Newstead, taking on leadership roles in the Sixth Form as they look to showcase the very best of their character for younger students as role models.

Extra-curricular opportunities are extensive at Newstead, ensuring that all students are catered to. Our clubs and societies cover a diverse spectrum, with strong representation in areas such as Sports, Music, Debating, ICT, Languages, and the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Moreover, all students have the chance to shine in Performing Arts and Music events, showcasing their talents and creativity.





Visit our website to find out about Character Education

Visit our website to find out about the Elective Programme

School Life



Beyond the classroom, our school life is vibrant and fulfilling, thanks to our extensive co-curricular program and a bustling calendar brimming with sports, music, performing arts, and various exciting events.

We are dedicated to meeting not only the intellectual and academic needs of your child but also their personal, social, and emotional well-being. At Newstead, pastoral care is a cornerstone of our ethos, ensuring every student's well-being is paramount. Through a nurturing environment, we foster holistic development, supporting students academically, emotionally, and socially.

Our students are happy, feel safe at school and appreciate that our differences make our community a special place. Our school is inclusive and diverse with students from all backgrounds, religions and communities.

Every Newstead student thrives here, achieving excellent exam results, forging lifelong friendships, and developing the self-assurance to seize every opportunity life presents. The memories students make at Newstead and the friendships they form last a lifetime

We have a dedicated and supportive SEND team who oversee the development of our students, both academically and pastorally. Provision for students with special needs is a matter for the school as a whole and we offer a range of support to help with communication and interaction, cognition and learning difficulties, social, mental and emotional health problems or sensory or physical needs.

Newstead is an amazing place to study and grow as a person. The community feel to Newstead makes it stand out as an exceptional school.

Year 10 Student



Sixth Form



Our Sixth Form is more than just a place to study, it's a bustling hub of activity and care. With a focus on academic excellence and personalised support, we provide a nurturing environment where every student can thrive.

Academic Excellence:

Our experienced teachers and diverse course offerings ensure that students have the resources they need to excel in their chosen subjects.

Engaging Environment:

With a variety of extracurricular activities and events, there's always something happening to keep students engaged and inspired.

Caring Community:

We pride ourselves on our strong sense of community, where students and staff work together in a spirit of mutual respect and understanding.

From the time students come here, the preparation for life beyond Newstead begins with weekly lecture programmes that offer exploratory talks from universities and degree subject areas through the course of Year 12. Students are supported through the application process for university, foundation courses and apprenticeships very carefully by the Careers and Guidance Officer, and Form Tutors will offer you a great deal of support as students get into the swing of making applications.

Join us in our Sixth Form and discover a supportive environment where every student is empowered to succeed.

Visit our website to find out more information on our Sixth Form



In the sixth form, students enjoy demanding work and use academic vocabulary to question and challenge concepts readily.

Ofsted, 2022





September 2027 Admissions

- Online Application opens: 1 May 2026
  Deadline: 30 June 2026 (closes midnight)
  Register here
- Open Morning: Saturday 4 July 2026 (Booking required)
- Selection Test: 25/26 September 2026
  (Specimen paper available to purchase from school reception)
- Selection test results will be sent out between 16 and 22 October 2026
- Complete Local Authority Application form
  Deadline: 31 October 2026
- **National Offer Day – 3 March 2027**

Pupil Premium Resources

Families in receipt of Pupil Premium should indicate this on the application form. Once this has been verified, we offer tuition packages exclusively to all families in receipt of this grant. The online package has been developed by the Grammar School Heads Association.



Ofsted Outstanding Provider

THE SUNDAY TIMES SCHOOLS GUIDE 2025 STATE SECONDARY SCHOOL OF THE YEAR LONDON

International Coalition of Girls' Schools icgs Advancing Girls' Education Globally

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"creating opportunities for success"

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United Learning
The best in everyone™