



Old Palace *of* **John Whitgift School**
Independent Girls' School



Old Palace
Juniors



Prospectus

2011/2012





Welcome





First and foremost Old Palace is a place of learning, but for each girl who comes here, Old Palace will also be a key contributor in her development as a compassionate, capable and confident individual, prepared to address the challenges presented to her as she makes her own contribution to society.

In addition to a first class academic education we also promote leadership, independence, integrity and an ambition to achieve. Old Palace has something to inspire every young woman ranging from football to astronomy.

Old Palace is a unique school in an exceptional and inspiring setting steeped in history as recorded from 896 AD. It is this which enables us to identify, encourage and nurture the special qualities of each and every individual entrusted to us. Our surroundings also stimulate girls to develop and flourish in ways beyond the reach of a conventional education. For example, not every girls' school in the country can boast the opportunity to sing cathedral repertoire every week in Croydon Minster; our next door neighbour at Old Palace.

Old Palace is blessed with magnificent buildings, enthusiastic, highly motivated staff and a sound ethos of social awareness. For all who embrace the many opportunities presented, Old Palace will reward them with a happy, memorable and empowering education.



Mrs Gill Stone
Head of Old Palace Juniors



Mrs Carol Jewell
Head of Old Palace





The learning journey

Academic excellence at the highest level occurs when the foundations for learning are secure. The journey to outstanding academic achievement for the Old Palace Year 13 student begins in Reception.

Responsible for shaping the leaders of tomorrow, we recognise the importance of nurturing our girls to believe in themselves, become independent and celebrate individuality. Simultaneously we are passionate that our children should enjoy every moment of their childhood, expressing their creativity and satisfying their natural curiosity.





Engaging minds

Excellent teaching and learning opportunities, a clear knowledge and focus on the individual and a close working relationship between school and family, result in maximum success.

Acutely aware of the need to work closely with families we provide suggestions and advice to encourage parents to become involved in their daughter's learning. We are proud of our children and our school and warmly invite parents in to share with us the many special moments that childhood produces.

Determined to provide a seamless transition into Reception we ensure enjoyment and learning through structured and meaningful play. We support girls in developing enquiring minds and becoming independent learners by encouraging them to satisfy their natural curiosity and develop logical and imaginative thought. Teaching and support staff provide a range of activities and opportunities that will allow the girls to reach their potential in each of the six areas of learning and development, namely:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication, Language and Literacy
- Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy
- Knowledge and Understanding of the World
- Physical Development
- Creative Development



Enhanced opportunities

The excellent resources available increase the opportunities for learning with children also experiencing ICT, Music, PE, Swimming and Dance.

The innovative 'MFL Experience' programme introduces students to a variety of Modern Foreign Languages and the cultures which they serve.

As girls move through the Juniors their experiences and opportunities will become increasingly varied as we challenge them to succeed. In Years 1 and 2 girls study Mathematics, English, Drama, Science, Humanities, RS, Art, ICT, Music, French, Swimming, PE and Dance.

A topic based approach is used to link subjects together through a curriculum web. An overview of the content is provided for parents so that they are fully aware of what their daughter is learning and so able to support. This approach continues in Years 3 to 5 but with Humanities separating into Geography and History and with the introduction of Logic and Reasoning.





Maximising potential

Girls will experience being taught within a whole class, working in a small group, working with a partner and working alone. A variety of learning activities are employed, for example, games, investigations, experiments, trips and regular visits to the well stocked library.

Across the School the Learning for Life programme promotes the development of social skills, self-awareness, health and relationship skills. For example, girls will learn to think about how someone else might be feeling or how to deal with their own emotions.

Continual assessment for learning informs tracking and monitoring of progress. The School recognises the need for high levels of literacy and regularly assesses reading and spelling, intervening as required to ensure progress is maintained. Regular communication with parents combined with open access to class teachers ensures any concerns or issues can be dealt with swiftly and transparently.

Our culture of achievement is a result of continual praise, reward and recognition as we encourage every individual to attain the highest possible standards in everything they do. Girls are motivated to achieve and celebrate their own success and that of others. Leadership positions in Year 5 and Merits and House Points across the School also serve to motivate.





Year 6

We are justly proud of the unique educational experience delivered to our girls in Year 6. An extended curriculum, taught by subject specialists within a senior school environment provides additional learning opportunities for our students.

Whilst challenging and stimulating for maximum learning, we maintain the close-knit community within Year 6 by having dedicated classrooms where students are taught when no specialist facilities are required. This provides a superb transition year, partly organised as at Juniors and partly as at Seniors.

The curriculum is overseen by senior school Subject Leaders who extend and enhance the Junior curriculum. The girls study 'Learning for Life', Mathematics, English, Science, Latin, French, Music, PE, Swimming, Logic and Reasoning, Creative Design (an amalgamation of D&T and Art & Design), Expressive Movement (an amalgamation of Dance and Drama) and Expanding Horizons. Expanding Horizons combines the three Humanities in a "Competence" based curriculum. Each term a topic is studied which brings together an area of study from Geography, History and Religious Studies.





Throughout the year students will focus on developing five competencies which will prepare them for life in the seniors. These include:

- **Learning** – understanding how to learn and learning to enjoy and love learning for its own sake and as part of understanding themselves
- **Managing information** - developing a range of techniques for accessing, evaluating and appreciating information and the importance of reflecting and applying critical judgement
- **Managing situations** - understanding the importance of, and developing techniques for, managing their own time
- **Relating to people** – understanding how to relate to other people in varying contexts, including those where they manage, or are managed by, others in group work, and how to work efficiently
- **Citizenship** – students will explore cultural and social diversity, in both national and global contexts, and why these should be respected and valued

This competence based approach enables students not just to acquire subject knowledge but to understand, use and apply it within the context of their wider learning and life. It also offers students a more holistic and coherent way of learning which allows them to make connections and apply knowledge across different subject areas.

Throughout the Juniors students are being prepared for the 11+ examinations, this continues into Year 6 through Mathematics, English and Logic & Reasoning lessons.

A wide variety of extra curricular activities are available to Year 6 students, many of which provide them the opportunity to work with older students.

We recognise that the transition to any senior school can induce anxiety within students (and parents) and we are confident that the Year 6 programme and approach supports all parties through this process. Feedback from students and parents has been overwhelmingly positive and we are immensely proud of the achievements of our Year 6 girls.





12

Extra-curricular activities

Old Palace is committed to the concept of learning for life, and ensures the curriculum also includes education beyond the school gates.

Girls go out on numerous outings – from a simple walk to the woods, a trip to the farm or museum, leading to residential trips for older girls.

We encourage girls to be aware of the world around them and develop an awareness of others. They may initiate their own ideas to raise money for specific projects or we work together as a school to support others in the wider community.

Girls develop new skills by taking part in the wide range of extra-curricular clubs run at lunchtimes and after school:

- Ballet
- Bridge
- Chess
- Choirs
- Dance
- Fitness club
- Gardening
- Gymnastics
- ICT
- Indian dance
- Junior Orchestra
- Little Wig
- Mini Strings
- Mini Tennis
- Music Theory
- Netball
- Orchestra
- Recorder
- Sewing
- Spanish
- Swimming





11+ success

Our highly professional and dedicated team provide superb opportunities for able young girls to thrive, preparing them for success in the 11+ entrance examinations and beyond.

Our girls are successful in their applications, at 11+, to a variety of top state and independent schools, including our own. Whilst the majority of students remain at Old Palace, a few must leave. Whilst we are sad to see them leave the Old Palace family, we recognise that our close-knit, academic environment is not right for all girls.







Community

We recognise the importance of students feeling safe and secure. We aim to establish a positive and meaningful relationship with both our students and their families in order to maintain our strong sense of community, from Reception to Year 13.

The House system fosters a sense of belonging and loyalty and leads to developing friendships across year groups.

The School is part of a Christian Foundation and we regularly join together as a community to share our ideals of love and respect. We gather together as a whole school termly for services in Croydon Minster.



The results



Old Palace Juniors provides the foundation from which your daughter will exceed her academic expectations at Old Palace Seniors and Sixth Form.

Many of our girls go to leading universities in the country. Here is a results overview from the 2011 public examinations:

A-Level

- 60% of grades achieved were A*/A
- 93% of grades attained were A*-C
- 24 girls gained at least 3 A*/A grades at A-Level
- 44% of students accepted into Oxbridge and Russell Group universities

AS Level

- 47% of grades were A
- 85% of grades were A-C
- One third of the cohort achieved 3 A grades or more

GCSE

- 72% of grades achieved were A*/A
- 96% of grades achieved were A*-C
- 42 students achieved 10 A*/A grades or above
- 715 A*/A grades in total



The Old Palace teaching team

Mr S Addis
BA (Hons) Bristol; PGCE

Mrs L Baker
BA (Hons) London; PGCE

Mrs K Ball
BSc (Hons) Wales; PGCE

Dr J Bannister
PhD Leeds, BSc (Hons) Sheffield; PGCE

Mrs J Barter
BA (Hons) Bristol; PGCE

Mrs E Berner
BA (Hons) Southampton; DipCG

Mrs E Bird
Cert Ed Stockwell

Mrs C Blok
BEd London

Mrs C Brougham
BA London

Mrs K Burdett
BSc (Hons) Lancaster; PGCE

Mrs H Busher
Cert Ed Manchester

Miss N Constantinides
MA Warwick; BA (Hons) Athens

Ms H Cook
BA (Hons) Manchester; PGCE

Mrs L Coster
BA (Hons) Wales; PGCE

Mrs N Daood
Dip RSA; CELTA

Mrs A Druery
BA (Hons) OU; CertEd

Dr J Edwards
PhD London; MSc Exeter

Mrs A Eley
BSc Loughborough; PGCE

H Evangeli
HND Croydon

Ms S Evans
BA (Dbl Hons) Manchester; PGCE

Mrs C Ferrer
BA (Hons) Roehampton; PGCE

Ms L Firth
MA Manchester; PGCE

Miss T Fitzgerald
BMus (Hons) London; PGCE

Mrs S Freeman
BA Birmingham (Hons); PGCE

Mrs A Frost
BSc (Hons) Birmingham; PGCE

Miss S Funnell
MA Oxford; PGCE

Dr A Gray
PhD London, MA; BA (Hons) Cambridge; PGCE

Mrs J Greenfield
BSc (Hons) Southampton; PGCE

Miss J Guppy
MA Sussex; BSc (Hons) Southampton; PGCE

Miss J Hall
BEd (Hons) Greenwich

Mr J Hargraves
BMus (Hons) London; PGCE

Miss E Hayward
BEd WSIHE; BSc OU

Mr J C Haywood
BSc (Hons) University College, London; PGCE

Mr G Hemmings
MA Cambridge; PGCE

Mrs D Hicks
BA (Hons) Liverpool; PGCE

Miss G Hobbs
BA (Hons) London; MA (Hons) Nottingham

Mrs J Hollingum
BA London; PGCE

Ms A Jabeen
BSc Coventry; PGCE

Miss N James
BSc (Hons) Loughborough; PGCE; CertEd

Mrs C Jewell
MA (Hons) St Andrew's; PGCE; DipEd (Mont); NPQH; CSBM

Mrs S Keanie
Cert Ed Froebel Institute

Mrs C Langley
MA (Hons) Edinburgh; ATC

Mrs C Lankester
BSc (Hons) Leeds; PGCE

Mrs S Manby-Clarke
BA (Hons) Brighton

Mrs C Marren
BSc (Hons) Wales; PGCE

Mrs L Mazzeo
MA Minnesota, BA Wales

Mrs C McConkey
BMus (Hons) London

Miss J McLean
BA (Hons) Belfast; Dip LNEA; PGCE

Mrs V Miall
BEd (Hons) Nottingham

Miss M Montagu
MSc London; BMed Birmingham; CertPsy; PGCE

Mrs E Morris
MEd Birmingham; BSc (Hons) Warwick; PGCE;

Mrs C Munro
Cert Ed Bishop Otter

Miss V Neal
BA (Hons) Brighton

Mrs S Newlands
BMus Manchester

Miss G Nikula
MA Stockholm, Sweden

Mr S O'Neill
MA (Jt Hons) Oxford; ACA; PGCE

Mr E Pattison
BSc (Hons) Newcastle; PGCE

Ms S Peate
MA London; BA (Hons) Bristol; DipSpLD; AMBDA; PGCE

Mrs F Pickard
BA (Hons) Wolverhampton; DipTEFL; PGCE

Mrs C Poirier
BA Angers, France; Licence Anglais/FLE France

Miss A Radelat
BA (Hons) Bristol; PGCE

Ms J Roberts
MEd Derby; BEd (Hons) Nottingham; Cert Ed (Nottingham)

Mrs E Rudolf
MA; BSc (Hons); London; PGCE

Mrs S Saito
BA Newcastle, PGCE

Mrs M Salter
BSc Salford (Hons); ACPSE; PGCE

Mrs M Sarkis
BA (Hons) Middlesex; Dip MRS; PGCE

Mr R Shirley
MSc London; BSc(Hons) Edinburgh; PGCE

Miss G Smith
BSc (Hons) London; PGCE

Mrs M Smith
Certificate in Counselling

Mrs S Smith
MSc Durham; BSc (Hons) St Andrews; DipPsy

Mrs C Solari
BA (Hons) Teeside; PGCE

Ms S Stewart
BA (Hons) Newcastle, Australia

Mrs A Stockwell
BSc (Dual Hons) Sheffield; PGCE

Mrs G Stone
BEd (Hons) Cambridge; Dip RSASpLD

Miss P Stone
GRSM Royal College of Music

Mrs C Stranack
Baccalaureate; DPP

Mrs J Sugarman
Cert Ed Sussex

Mrs T Wallis
BEd (Hons) Oxford

Mrs G Talleux
BRelSc (Hons) Maynooth, Ireland

Mr S Talleux
Maitrise D'Anglais Lille; BA London;
Licence es Lettres

Mrs K Tamplin
RLSS

Mr C Taruwona
BSc Zimbabwe; PGCE

Mrs K Taylor
BSc (Hons) Salford; PGCE

Mrs P Thorpe
Cert Ed Bristol

Miss O Waldron
BA (Hons) London; PGCE

Mrs S Wells
MA Oxford

Mr M Wilcock
BEd Goldsmiths

Mr D Wilkins
BSc (Econ) Hons (LSE) PGCE

Mrs J Wilkinson
BEd Gloucestershire

Miss K Wilson
BA (Hons) Leeds; PGCE

Ms S Wingvist
BSc (Hons) Southampton; DipHe; BEd

Mrs A Winstone
Cert Ed Seaford



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