



Handsworth Wood
Girls' School

visual & performing arts

SIXTH
FORM

ASPIRING FOR EXCELLENCE

SI

WELCOME



XTH FORM

Welcome to the Handsworth Wood Girls' Sixth Form

I am very proud to introduce you to our Sixth Form. I believe that we have a very important role to play in providing all students who apply to us with the opportunity to embark on a curriculum which is tailor-made to suit their needs and expectations.

We pride ourselves in providing an environment that is secure and welcoming where all students regardless of their previous experience will feel a part of our Post 16 community.

As Head of Sixth Form I work closely with my team of Form Tutors to ensure that each student has a positive experience both academically and socially. I operate an open door policy which allows students to approach me on all matters that may affect their Post 16 life.

I believe that education is the key to a successful future and we are here to assist all students in achieving such a future.

Merle McCalla
Head of Sixth Form



We have high expectations for our students in all areas of their learning. Studying for AS, A Levels and Level 3 BTEC courses requires 100% commitment to learning, where having a positive attitude to study is paramount. We expect all students to attend school every day and arrive on time, bringing with them the necessary equipment for a full day of learning.

Academic learning is hard work but extremely rewarding. Students are given opportunities in lessons to learn in a variety of ways such as discussing issues together, doing research and presenting their learning to other students. This must be backed up by a commitment to complete all homework on time and to act upon the advice of the teachers in order to make further progress. Students must also expect to spend 3-4 hours per night studying in order to pass their courses with the highest grades.

We place great emphasis on respect for each other and politeness. Being in the Sixth Form is a privilege and therefore we expect our students to behave like mature young women, providing positive role models for younger students in the school as well as preparing themselves for a future career.

EXPECT



A TATIONS

CURRICULUM

Students are able to benefit from a broad range of courses in the Sixth Form that facilitate progression to any university course. AS and A Levels are available in a very diverse range of subjects:

- English Language and English Literature
- Mathematics
- Sciences – Biology, Chemistry, Physics
- Social Sciences – Law, Sociology, Psychology
- Humanities – Geography, History, Religious Studies
- Arts – Drama, Theatre Studies, Art
- Languages – French, Urdu

We also offer Level 3 BTEC courses in Dance, Health and Social Care, Child Care, Performing Arts, Music Technology and Science for students who prefer a more coursework based approach. A Level 2 pathway for students who require an additional year of study before accessing Level 3 pathways is also available, and all students have the opportunity to retake GCSE English or GCSE Mathematics if necessary. In addition, we are part of a collaboration of schools in the North West of Birmingham which provides access to additional courses or combinations of courses that broaden further the options available. The full list and complete details of courses currently available, including their entry requirements may be found in the Sixth Form Guide.



STUDE

Handsworth Wood Girls' School aims to develop confident, mature, self-disciplined, reliable and considerate young women who are motivated to achieve their potential but who are altruistic and prepared to contribute to their community.



MENT SUPPORT

We also promote equality of opportunity whilst celebrating and valuing diversity and encouraging mutual respect. We place a strong emphasis on the importance of the role of pastoral care in achieving this aim. All students are allocated to a tutor group led by a form tutor who will monitor and support their learning whilst addressing any issues or concerns that they may have. Students see their tutor twice daily for registration and tutorial activities, but they also have the opportunity to meet their form tutor individually to discuss progress and set personal targets.

Dedicated subject staff work with students in small teaching groups to help them take responsibility for their own learning. This is achieved by enabling them to identify short, medium and long term goals, to develop the ability to self-evaluate and to focus on their achievements. By monitoring progress and providing constructive feedback, staff provide support and challenge to enable all students to achieve success.

A photograph of three young women in a computer lab, looking at multiple computer monitors. The woman in the foreground is wearing a purple top, and the woman behind her is wearing a patterned headscarf. The monitors display various data visualizations and charts. The scene is dimly lit, with the primary light source being the screens.

ENRICHM

Whilst academic study forms the core of any Sixth Form curriculum, both universities and employers are looking for evidence of the development of other skills and characteristics.



ENT

At Handsworth Wood Girls' School all students participate in a timetabled enrichment activity and there is the flexibility and opportunity to participate in much more. The compulsory enrichment options are very broad including Level 3 courses such as the Level 3 Certificate in Financial Capability and the Extended Project as well as over sixty Level 4 university modules through the Open University.

Many students choose to undertake work experience on a weekly basis to develop their employability skills whilst others follow a work placement as part of their Child Care or Health and Social Care course. Other options include the Arts Leader Award, Dance, Sport, Certificate in Food Hygiene and Volunteering. We believe that all Sixth Form students should have the opportunity to develop their leadership and team working skills and there are many opportunities to do this. Examples of these are organising, supporting and attending clubs and activities, getting involved in school productions, taking posts of responsibility throughout the school and directly supporting the learning of younger students through peer mentoring or the reading scheme.

UCAS & CAREERS



Students are encouraged and inspired to further their career aspects and broaden their knowledge to prepare them for their chosen career pathways. During tutor time, students plan and prepare applications for their Post-18 options. Tutors and visiting experts offer support in preparing CVs and UCAS personal statements.

Students are encouraged to broaden their knowledge by attending master classes and subject conferences at local universities in areas of study that interest them. University Taster Days and Open Days also offer students the opportunity to find out more about further study and student life. In addition students have face-to-face access to bespoke information, advice and guidance on careers and the U-Explore online interactive careers website.

Preparation for Higher Education within our Sixth Form is considered an important journey for each and every one of our students.

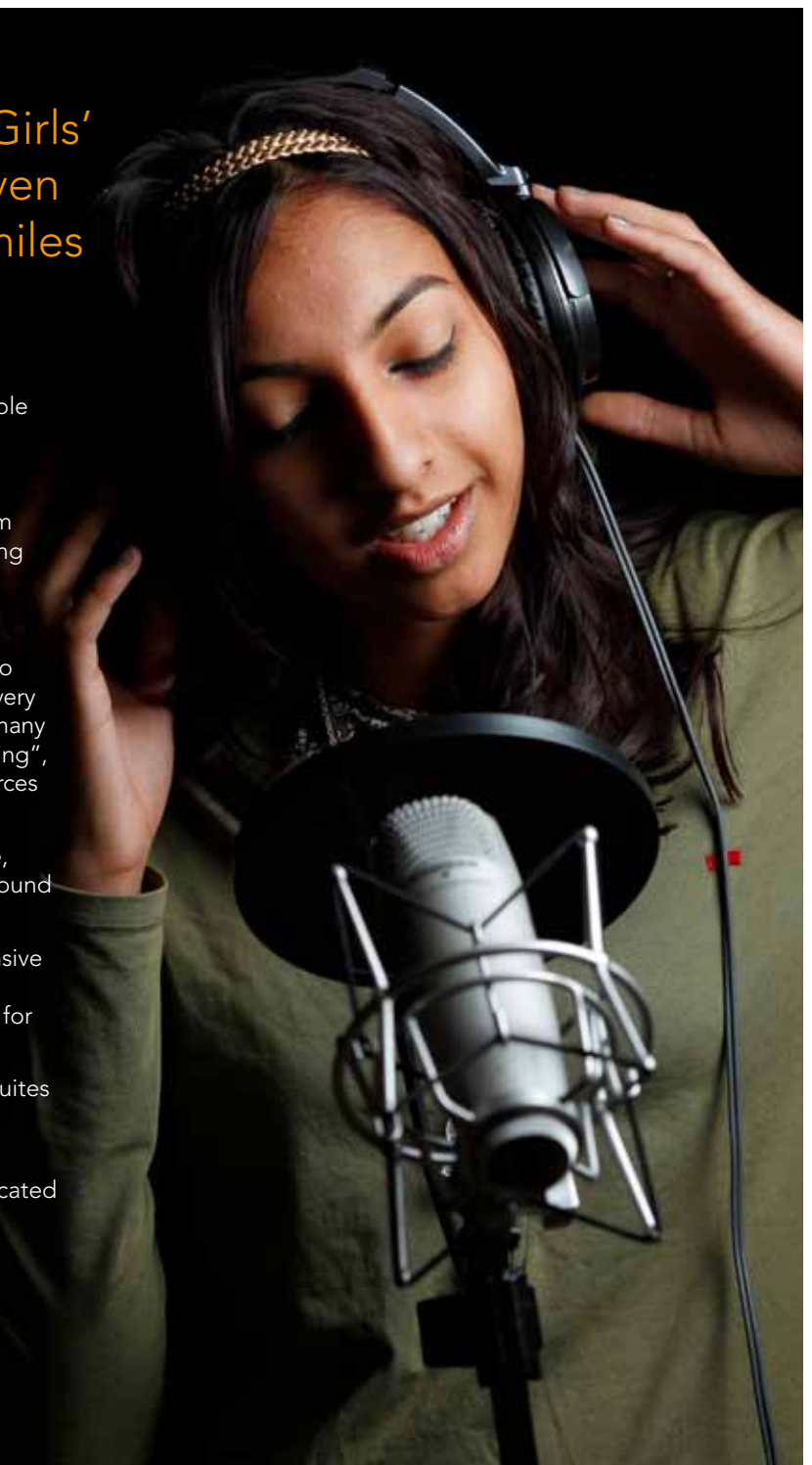


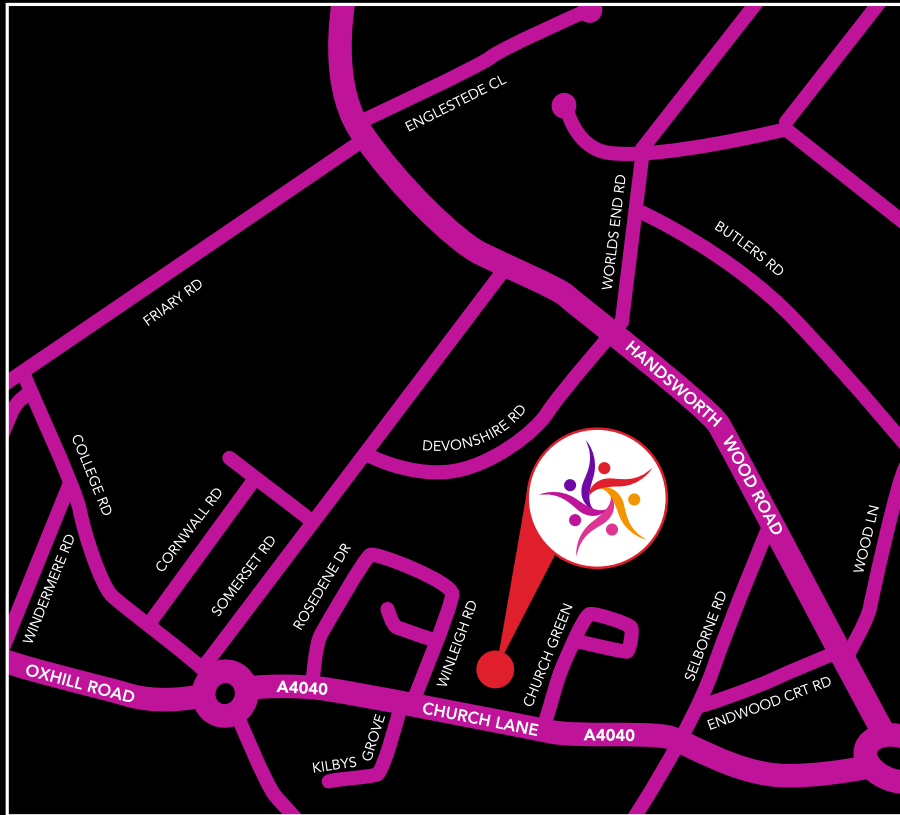
FACILITIES

Handsworth Wood Girls' School is set in a seven acre campus three miles from the city centre.

It is within easy reach of the trains from New Street Station and is easily accessible on the number 11 and 16 bus routes. Facilities include:

- A dedicated Sixth Form common room with a kitchen, which is ideal for relaxing and socialising.
- Work areas for independent learning.
- A laptop with wireless internet access to our Virtual Learning Environment for every Sixth Form student. Our new VLE has many digital resources including "I am Learning", Boardworks, Myworks, as well as resources developed by our own teaching staff.
- Performing Arts has a 140 seat theatre, four practice rooms for music, and a sound recording studio.
- Science has recently undergone extensive refurbishment and now has five brand new laboratories on a dedicated floor for Physics, Chemistry and Biology.
- Seven fully-equipped, high spec ICT suites with the latest software.
- A newly refurbished and re-equipped Learning Resource Centre with a dedicated area for Sixth Form private study.
- All classrooms are equipped with interactive whiteboards.





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