

Grow with us



THE LAURELS
SCHOOL



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Welcome

I feel incredibly proud and honoured to lead such an outstanding school, which honours the uniqueness of each person.

Our one-to-one tutorial system means that every girl is truly known and valued.

A Laurels pupil aspires to her own excellence through the cultivation of moral, intellectual, and social virtues. A Laurels pupil is self-aware and aware of those around her. She is curious and proactive and has a spirit of leadership rooted in service.

Our bespoke character education programme - *Arete* - provides our pupils with a strong foundation, enabling them to go out into the world as women who are ready to embrace future opportunities, have meaningful relationships and flourish in the 21st century workplace.

We look forward to welcoming you to The Laurels for a visit.

Linda Sanders
Headmistress





Our Catholic Ethos

We strive to help all our pupils grow in their own personal spirituality, so they can go into the world with a strong sense of who they are, able to take their place in society and to contribute their gifts and talents to enriching their communities.

This is underpinned by Catholic teaching, which for centuries has represented an outstanding education. It means that pupils are encouraged to grow in all aspects of their life, intellectual, physical, cultural, social and spiritual.

We believe that our girls leave The Laurels equipped to embrace life's opportunities and challenges.



Pupils of all faiths and none are comfortable in the school, where Christian values form the basis of school life.

ISI report, 2023

Arete (Ancient Greek; /, rə'te /): an aspiration to excellence and virtue in everything we do

Arete is an attitude of mind and a way of being that permeates every aspect of life at The Laurels. It provides the firm foundation on which to build a woman of character.

Leadership, academics, serving the community, personal development, sports, music, widening horizons, spiritual growth, emotional robustness and an ethical outlook are all encompassed.



Our *Arete* programme has five strands:

- intellectual pursuit
- achieving potential
- emotional intelligence and relationships
- personal growth
- service leadership

Intellectual Pursuit

We love to learn. Enter a classroom and you will see pupils engaged in imaginative learning and teachers imparting real passion for their subjects.

A Laurels education doesn't stop at the classroom door: you'll find us in galleries and centres of innovation, museums and the great outdoors, on a journey of discovery. There are exchanges too with renowned schools in France, Spain and the USA to help our girls acquire an international perspective.



Pupils are motivated and enthusiastic and have an excellent work ethic.

ISI report, 2023



Pupils of all ages respond extremely positively to teachers' high expectations.

ISI report, 2023





Inspiring Learning

We offer a broad curriculum to enthuse young minds. Philosophy is taught from Year 7 to enable our pupils to learn to discern the truth. They love debating their points too, honing the skills which allow them to progress to adulthood able to share their ideas and beliefs effectively.

Laurels girls leave school ready to take their place in the adult world of study and employment. They are communicators and collaborators, problem solvers and creators.



Pupils are excellent verbal communicators and are always keen to engage in discussion and debate, encouraged by the high premium placed on oral skills by their teachers.

ISI report, 2023

Achieving Potential

We run an imaginative programme of speakers and visits to open our pupils' eyes to the possibilities that await them in their careers. Whether it's celebrating Wonderful Women Day, going on a trip to Amazon HQ or taking part in a workshop with a business psychologist, there are many opportunities to explore future prospects.

Of course, knowing how to study effectively to go on to future success is vital, and this starts in Year 7 with a bespoke course in study skills followed by guidance and one-to-one mentoring further up school.

Our pupils are inspired to go on to great things in their lives, and whatever their future career path, we're here to enable them to achieve their very best.



Pupils develop excellent knowledge, skills and understanding, supported by the school's formal system of testing, target setting, evaluation and feedback.
ISI report, 2023





Emotional Intelligence & Relationships

We want our pupils to be the very best people they can be, nurtured from the inside out to become strong women who can take on life's challenges. At the heart of this is having the ability to form happy and lasting relationships. We celebrate each other's differences as unique and beloved children of God.



Pupils are able to develop strong personal characteristics based on the values of the school.

ISI report, 2023



Pupils value their relationships with individuals and groups.

ISI report, 2023

Personal Growth

Our personal tutor programme is unique in London day schools and we believe it's at the heart of our outstanding education. Each tutor is a member of the teaching staff who will meet your daughter regularly to offer support to her as she navigates her teenage years. Whether it's offering suggestions on how to be more organised, or providing help at difficult moments, your daughter's tutor is there to be a source of stability and inspiration. Tutors also meet you, the parents, regularly, to ensure a strong partnership between home and school.



The development of pupils' self-confidence and self-esteem is excellent.
ISI report, 2023



In interview, all pupils universally and without hesitation said they were happy in school.
ISI report, 2023





Service- Leadership

Laurels girls go on to lead - in their work, their communities and their families. It's done in a spirit of serving and empowering others.

Learning how to inspire, to take the initiative and to lead effectively, starts here at school. Pupils flourish in roles of responsibility, beginning in Year 7. They can participate in class councils, the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme, mentoring roles and prefect posts. 'Serve with joy' is our school motto and we live it out in our everyday lives.



*Pupils make a positive
contribution to the school and
local community.*
ISI report, 2023

Co- curricular

Life outside the classroom enriches our pupils' experiences. Our girls are footballers and artists, debaters and coders, advocates for social justice and members of bands. They are encouraged to pursue their passions and find new talents. If a club doesn't yet exist, they can start one too!



Pupils enter a wide variety of competitions in which they achieve notable success.

ISI report, 2023





VI Form

Our girls leave the VI Form equipped to thrive in any setting. Small teaching groups, a continuing focus on personal tutoring and our character development programme enable our pupils to go on to an impressive range of universities and courses.

They enjoy the privileges of VI Form life and have many opportunities to act as leaders within the school community too.



The achievement of pupils at GCSE and A level in 2022 was above the national average for maintained schools
ISI report, 2023

Location

The Laurels moved to Crystal Palace in September 2021. The school's Gothic building was originally designed as one of the very first Catholic orphanages by William Wardell, who went on to be the architect for St Patrick's Cathedral in Melbourne. It is complemented by modern purpose-built teaching facilities.

The school is set in spacious walled grounds which include extensive playing fields.

Travel

The school's bespoke coach service covers a wide area of South London and stretches as far as Chelsea. Transit buses operate from Gipsy Hill and Norwood Junction.





Next Steps

We welcome girls who will contribute to the life of The Laurels. If your daughter is ready to be inspired and to inspire, to lead and to serve, to seek to do her best and to support others' aspirations too, then we welcome an application.

Please complete the application form on our website, where you will also find further information about the admissions process and entrance tests.

Scholarships & Bursaries

Girls entering Years 7, 9 and 12 can apply for a scholarship. Academic, music, sports, art and drama scholarships are available. You will find further details on the website.

Bursaries are means-tested. Please contact the Head of Admissions for further information on how to apply.

admissions@thelaurelsschool.org

www.thelaurelsschool.org.uk

THE LAURELS SCHOOL

OUR LADY'S CLOSE | LONDON | SE19 3FA | T: 020 8674 7229

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