

Jesuit Education since 1892



Wimbledon College Prospectus

From the Headteacher

Welcome to the Wimbledon College Prospectus. I hope that the following pages will enable you to gain an insight into the life and spirit of the College, the values that underpin the way in which we live and learn and all that the school has to offer your child.



Wimbledon College has a strong tradition as a Jesuit school. The ideals that were established for the College back in 1892 remain at the centre of the school's mission today.

It is above all a Christian community, where we give witness to the power of God's love for us in Jesus Christ. As a community we value and care for every individual, taking seriously our partnership with parents, both in passing on the tradition of the Catholic faith and in ensuring that your child has the opportunity to achieve his potential. We are committed to academic excellence within the context of developing each person's unique mix of gifts and talents, so that they leave us well prepared for the next stage of their lives.

At the heart of the Jesuit tradition is the insight of St Ignatius Loyola that God is to be found in all things. This belief means that Wimbledon College, along with Jesuit schools worldwide, aims to:

- create a caring and disciplined community in which pupils will feel secure and are motivated to be involved in their studies and in a wide range of school activities
- encourage pupils to recognise the best in themselves and to work hard to develop all their talents
- instill in its pupils an awareness of the needs of others and a commitment to putting their gifts and energies at the service of others

Making the right choice of secondary school for your child is an extremely important decision. If you recognise in Wimbledon College a place where he could thrive and grow, then I would encourage you to apply.

If there is any further help or information you need then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Adrian Laing
Headteacher

A Jesuit School

Wimbledon College is a Jesuit school and shares the traditions and values of the 2,500 Jesuit schools and universities worldwide.

St Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuits, wrote in 1540 of Jesuit schools being “for improvement in living and learning for the greater glory of God and the common good.” This remains our mission today.

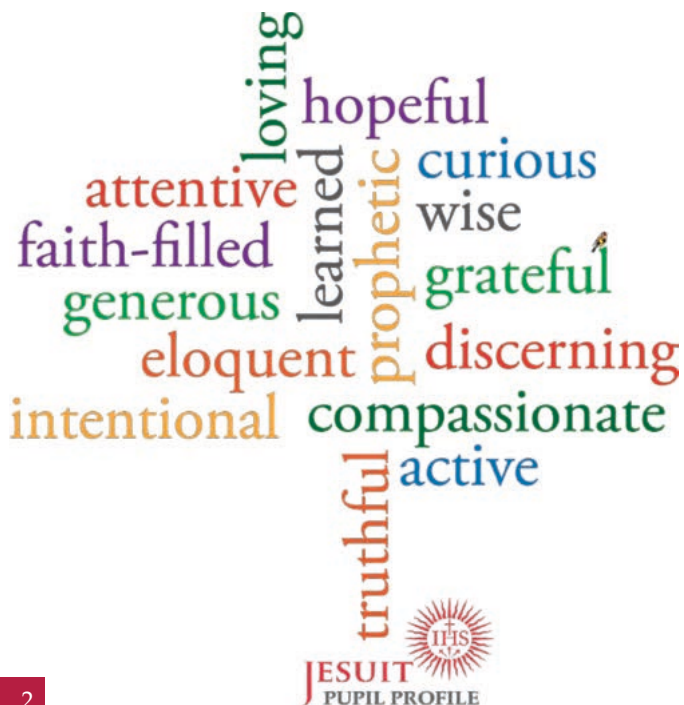
As a pupil progresses through the school he becomes part of this tradition, experiencing at first hand its pattern of teaching, values and practices, informed by the Jesuit vision. It is our hope that each pupil will accept this rich heritage and make it his own and in so doing will be prepared for life, which is itself a preparation for eternal life.

Jesuit schools encourage pupils to find God in all things, to contribute to the building up of a Christian community which in turn cares for and values them. It encourages excellence in all they do for the greater glory of God and the common good, and seeks to broaden their horizons so they engage with the wider world and ultimately change it for the better.



A Christian Community

As a Christian community, religious formation and the passing on of the Catholic faith are central to the life, work and inspiration of the school.



The Religious Studies programme encourages pupils to understand and engage with the tradition of Catholic belief and practice. All pupils take Religious Studies at GCSE.

The College celebrates the major feast days and seasons of the Church's year with Mass and other liturgies in the nearby Jesuit Church of the Sacred Heart and in the College Chapel.

The College Chapel stands at the heart of the school and prayers are offered here daily for our pupils and their families. During May and October the rosary is said, and the Stations of the Cross during Lent.

The Society of Jesus funds a full-time lay chaplain, assisted by other staff and senior pupils. The chaplaincy programme provides opportunities for pupils to explore and grow in their spiritual lives, their understanding of their faith, and their vocation to be "men and women for others".



Intellectual Formation

Learning is the core business of our school. Building on the foundations of the primary years, we aim to encourage every pupil to make good progress through enthusiastic and competent teaching, and through a well-tailored curriculum that is properly resourced.

The Lower Line (Years 7 – 9) curriculum aims to build solid foundations in English, Mathematics and Science and beyond that to provide a broad and balanced curriculum including the humanities, the creative arts and modern languages.

As they enter Higher Line (Years 10 and 11), pupils choose three option subjects to continue to GCSE alongside the core. Guidance is given about subject choice and its implications for Sixth Form and further or university education.



Pupils are given a wide range of possibilities to follow a curriculum that suits their needs and interests.

Pupils are regularly assessed in each subject against their individual target grades. Their progress is shared with the pupils themselves and with their parents.



A great deal of care is exercised to ensure pupils achieve their potential. A supported study programme operates after school, and mentoring identifies and challenges any underperformance especially in the key examination years.

With the exception of English and Mathematics, all groups are mixed ability in Year 7 and Year 8. We move to setting in most subjects in Year 9.

The school has developed extensive online resources for learning. Homework, revision material and complete course details are all available to pupils and their parents.

Wimbledon College works with the Royal Society, the UK academy of Science.





Lower Line Curriculum

Core

- English (4 periods a week)
- Mathematics (4)
- Science (4)
- Religious Studies (3)
- Modern Languages (3)
- PE and Games (3)
- Computing (1)

Humanities

- Geography (2)
- History (2)

Arts

- (in rotation 4 periods a week)
- Art, Design Technology, Drama and Music

Higher Line Curriculum

Core

- English (5)
- Mathematics (5)
- Science (6)
- Religious Studies (3)
- Games (2)

Options

- (3 options 3 periods a week)
- GCSE Art
- GCSE Business
- GCSE Design Technology
- GCSE Drama
- GCSE French
- GCSE Geography
- GCSE History
- GCSE Computer Science
- GCSE Music
- GCSE Spanish
- GCSE Physical Education
- BTEC Sport



Pastoral Care

Teachers in Jesuit schools are more than academic guides. They are ready to listen to their pupils' cares and concerns, to share their joys and sorrows, and to help them with personal growth and interpersonal relationships.

The Heads of Line, supported by teams of tutors and pastoral support assistants, take active responsibility for the academic progress, pastoral care and engagement of pupils in the life of the school and its extra-curricular activities. They are also supported by our School Chaplain and School Counsellor.

Expectations of behaviour and commitment are high. Pupils are expected to behave well, according to a clear code of expectations and school rules, and to develop self-discipline and commitment to the aims and ethos of the school as they grow up. This includes the wearing

of uniform, courtesy shown towards others, punctuality, and a positive attitude to studies and the wider life of the school.

The school has its own Inclusion Centre for pupils at risk of exclusion, or who are failing to cope with the demands of school life.

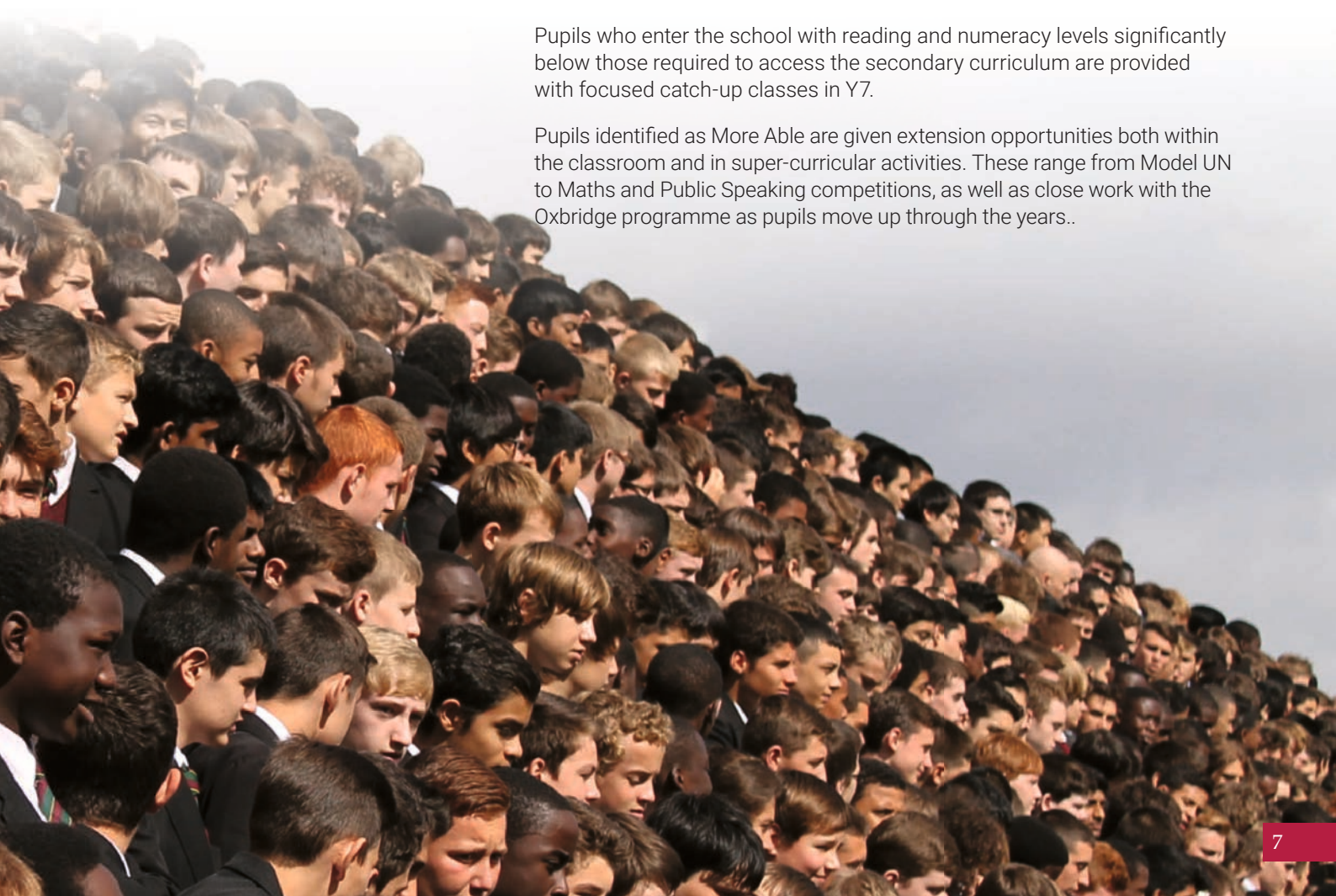
The school places a strong emphasis on personal health, safety and fitness. Every Tuesday pupils have an extended tutor period which focusses on an aspect of PSHE.

Pupils with Additional Needs

Every pupil in the school has a different personality, different background, and different needs. Some will have significant additional needs. These arise from physical disability or medical condition, emotional and behaviour issues, not having English as their first language, or learning needs. A strong Special Needs Department, with three teachers and some 30 support staff, provides specialist teaching and care for these pupils within the department and out in the school at large. The aim is to balance withdrawal from mainstream lessons with the goal of integrating pupils with additional needs into the normal life of the school.

Pupils who enter the school with reading and numeracy levels significantly below those required to access the secondary curriculum are provided with focused catch-up classes in Y7.

Pupils identified as More Able are given extension opportunities both within the classroom and in super-curricular activities. These range from Model UN to Maths and Public Speaking competitions, as well as close work with the Oxbridge programme as pupils move up through the years..



Activities

Pupils playing sport for the school, acting in a school play, singing in the school choir, or competing for the school in chess or debating, are more likely to identify with the school and be proud of being at Wimbledon College. This in turn has a positive effect on attitude, behaviour and, ultimately, grades.

Wimbledon College has an extensive programme of sport specializing in rugby, football, basketball, swimming, cricket and athletics. There is regular training and a full fixture list against the best sporting schools in the south east and beyond. Beyond the major sports, there is a variety of minor sports providing additional opportunities for all pupils to get involved in a sport that suits them.

A wide range of sporting and other extra-curricular activities is provided and there is a strong expectation that every pupil will become involved in at least two activities of their choice. The Drama Department puts on several productions a year, and also collaborates with other schools and groups in Merton on projects of different kinds. There is extensive provision for music in the purpose-built Music School (2005). Instrumental lessons are available during the week or as part of the Saturday Music School (MMF). The College has its own Army Cadet contingent.





Major Sports

- Athletics
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Football
- Rugby
- Rugby Sevens
- Swimming

Minor Sports

- Athletics (indoor)
- Boxing
- Badminton
- Cross-country running
- Fitness training
- Futsal
- Swimming (Non Swimmers)
- Tennis
- Table Tennis
- Volleyball
- Water Polo

Activities

- Altar servers
- Army cadets
- Board games club
- Book club
- Chaplaincy club
- Chess
- Comic club
- Computer Science club
- Craft
- Debating
- Duke of Edinburgh award
- Gardening Club
- Lego club
- Maths challenge
- Model railway club
- Scrabble
- Star Wars Club
- Warhammer Craft

Music and Drama

- College Choir
- Guitar club
- Swing and Rock Bands
- St Cecilia Sinfonia
- The Orchestra Project
- Christmas College Production (Musical)
- External collaborative projects
- Kings College Community Project
- Merton Art Share Project
- First Stage Drama Club



Horizons

The pace of change in our world is very great. The adults of tomorrow will face technological, economic and social challenges that we adults of today can hardly conceive. It is therefore important that a Jesuit education offers its pupils plenty of opportunities to broaden their horizons.



We aim to bring into the school people who will present the challenges and complexities of the modern world. This includes Members of Parliament, professionals working in the law and healthcare, theatre groups, authors and artists, the armed forces and diplomats, volunteers working in developing countries, as well as Jesuits from around the globe.

There are well-established exchanges with the Jesuit schools in Toulouse and Tudela for those taking French or Spanish at GCSE.

All departments organise school trips and visits which enhance learning and there are opportunities for all pupils to take part.

Above all, every pupil is encouraged to set personal goals, both short and longer term. These are regularly reviewed and pupils are given advice and support in attaining those goals.



Sixth Form

Wimbledon College has a large, well established and successful Sixth Form. We work in partnership with the Ursuline High School which enables us to offer a wide variety of courses and opportunities to develop relationships between pupils at both schools.

The Sixth Form offers progression from 16 through to apprenticeship, university entrance or the work place. Pupils are supported by the same academic monitoring, pastoral care and career advice that is so successful in Year 7 to 11. This includes support with the UCAS process. They also have access to the same rich programme of extra-curricular activities. They belong to the same Christian community with its opportunities for prayer, reflection, growth in faith and the service of others. At the same time, the Sixth Form aims to encourage pupils to take more responsibility for their own learning and engagement in school life, and to operate an ethos which is a step between school and university.

Wimbledon College offers a wide range of A Level courses, alongside a number of L3 vocational qualifications, enabling pupils to take the next step to university or the work place.

The One Year Sixth Form programme offers pupils a clear pathway through a range of Level 2 qualifications combined with GCSEs in English and Mathematics, to either college courses or A Level courses.

Sixth Form Standards encompassing studies, attendance and punctuality, participation, responsibility, and dress code, support and challenge Sixth Form pupils to excel and to grow in independent learning and personal development and maturity.

The large Sixth Form Centre provides dedicated study facilities with extensive IT access for the Sixth Form. There are additional specialist study areas for Sixth Form pupils in art, music, science and humanities.

The Sixth Form successfully provides preparation for applicants to Oxford and Cambridge Universities and to other top level universities around the country. The school has significant experience and success in guiding pupils through the UCAS application process.

Further information about Sixth Form admissions and Open Evening are available online.





Information & Contact Details

Wimbledon College is a Roman Catholic voluntary aided comprehensive school under the trusteeship of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits).

The Local Authority for the school is the London Borough of Merton. The DfE school number is 315/4701

Admissions

Wimbledon College exists primarily to provide a Jesuit education for children of the Catholic community. Once it has met its historical and current obligation to pupils of the Catholic community, Wimbledon College welcomes those who support the religious ethos of the school.

Each September, Wimbledon College will admit 199 pupils to Year 7 without regard for aptitude or ability. Priority is given to practising Catholic pupils.

Detailed admissions arrangements are published each year online.

Enquiries

Enquiries about admissions should be made to the Admissions Officer:

Mrs Paola Cray

Wimbledon College, Edge Hill, London SW19 4NS
Direct line and voicemail: 020 8879 9355
Email: registrar@wimbledoncollege.org.uk



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