



WALLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

The Wallington Week

HIERS OF THE PAST, MAKERS OF THE FUTURE

Monday 7th October 2024

Message from the Headteacher

The GCSE music recital last week was a real triumph. The performances were of an exceptional quality, and I always enjoy supporting students when they are demonstrating their talents in different ways.



Last week we also saw another fantastic mini medical interview event. We had a number of alumni, parents and guests who volunteered their time to run a series of mock activities to help prepare our students who have applied for courses in Medicine. We are always truly grateful for this type of support.

Our building works continue and hopefully the roofing works will finish soon, and work will start on the amazing transformation of our canteen facilities. I will keep families informed as this work progresses but hopefully all the new facilities will be completed by next September. We are still fundraising for our science laboratories so please do donate if you are able to <https://www.wallingtongirls.org.uk/school-fund>.

On Thursday, we had our first Hans Woyda mathematics competition match against Wallington County Grammar School. Representing our school we had Julia (Y13), Ashviya (Y12), Amelia (Y11) and Mugdha (Y9). Both teams achieved excellent scores, and we were delighted to win 41-40.

Useful Links

Co-Curricular Activities

SOCs, the school's new online system for Co-Curricular activities, will allow your child to see all available activities but also allow you to view after school registers to see if your child is attending and in school.

Careers Noticeboard

For live updates on careers related opportunities please [click here](#).

Current Vacancies

Click here for a link to our [vacancies](#) page

Upcoming Events

Oct 8th- Whole School Photo

Oct 14th- Y7 Meet the Tutor

Oct 17th- Sixth Form Open Evening

A number of students have signed up for the Wings of Hope Achievement Award and on Saturday they attended a workshop led by mentors from London Business School to learn more about how to fundraise and key skills like project management, presentation, and finance management.

We are really hoping the school photograph takes place on Tuesday – fingers crossed for the weather this time!

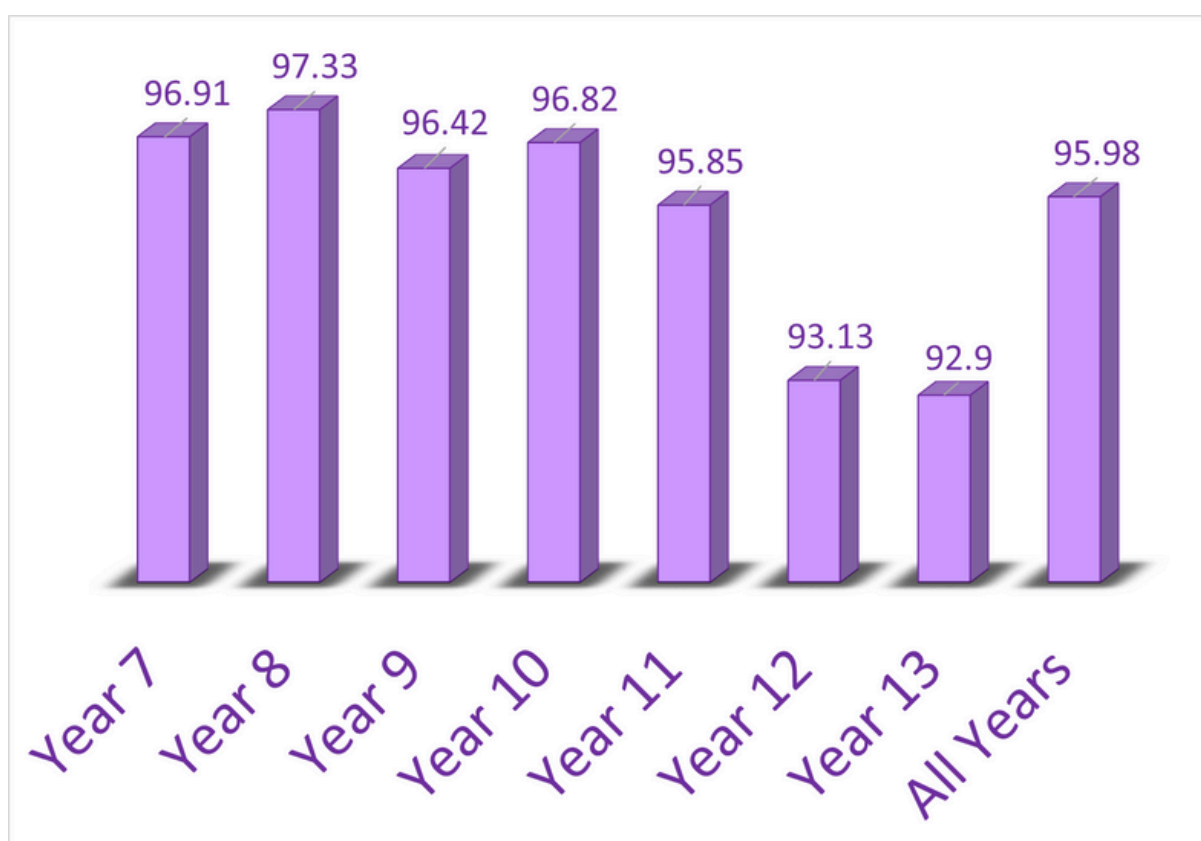
Ofsted inspections restart this week, and we are due an inspection this academic year. We are excited to show an inspection team what a wonderful school we have with such amazing students, and I will contact you once they call as there will be a parental questionnaire they ask all parents to complete.

We have had some students come into school with socks over tights this week, please speak with your daughter as this is not part of the dress code. And for the very few parents who park on the double yellow lines or over the school drive at the end of the day, please do not do this as it is unsafe.

-Ms T O'Brien
Headteacher

Attendance Percentages

Between 02/09/24 - 01/10/24





Calendar

Week B

Monday 7th October

GCSE Music Recording- Main Hall
Late Detention (3.10-3.30pm E06)

Tuesday 8th October

GCSE Music Recording- Main hall
Whole School Photo- p1 to p3
Year 7 House Cross Country Event P5
Late Detention (3.10-3.30pm E06)

Wednesday 9th October

Wakehurst trip (9:00-16:00pm)
Central Detention (3:10-3:40pm)

Thursday 10th October

NATO Talk (Y12&13 Politics)
Late Detention (3.10-3.30pm E06)
Workshop 4: KS4 Study Skills WHSG (6-7pm)

Friday 11th October

Wakehurst trip (9:00-16:00pm)
Headteachers Detention (15:10-17:10pm)
Late Detention (3:10PM-3:30PM E06)
Central Detention (3:10-4:10pm E06)

Messages from DSL

Parent Workshop: The Teenage Brain, Exam Stress and Perfectionism

Date and time: Wed 16th Oct 2024, 18.30-20.00

Facilitator: Jenny Langley - Mental Health
Trainer from The Charlie Waller Trust

Location: This is a virtual event - Zoom

The Charlie Waller Trust has been working alongside Dr John Coleman who is a leading expert in the field of teenage brain development. Jenny Langley is one of their lead trainers in this area and in this session Jenny will talk us through the latest research around the development of the teenage brain, which starts from around the age of 8 and runs through to the mid-twenties.

Understanding some of these key changes can help us to see the world through the teenage lens more clearly, and therefore to come alongside our youngsters when they are struggling with pressures such as exam stress, perfectionist tendencies and other social developmental issues. The session is for all parents and carers and will include practical tips in communicating with your child in the face of difficulties.

The link is here for this online workshop:

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89579026745?
pwd=BO7JbQupsGQ60AL8bO4jDzTyBnV3ng.
1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89579026745?pwd=BO7JbQupsGQ60AL8bO4jDzTyBnV3ng.1)

Meeting ID: 895 7902 6745

Passcode: 155283

-Mrs M Sundborg
Assistant Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead

Parent Workshop: KS4 Study Skills (Years 10 and 11 Parents)

Date and time: Thurs 10th Oct 2024, 18.00-19.00pm

Facilitator: Mr Donnelly – Assistant
Headteacher for Teaching and Learning at
WHSG

Location: This event will be held at WHSG

This workshop is for the parents of Years 10 and Year 11 students. Mr Donnelly will provide parents and carers with tips and techniques to support their child with revision and how to retain more information and knowledge. The session will also look at how we can increase students' chances of becoming expert learners.

Parent Workshop: I Wish I Looked Like Them - Helping Teens Navigate Body Image Issues

Date and time: Fri 18th Oct 2024, 12.30-13.30

Facilitator: Dr Danielle Shbero - Clinical
Psychologist from Sutton CAMHS

Location: This is a virtual event – Eventbrite

Body image issues are increasingly a challenge for many teenagers and young people. This workshop talks about our current understanding of body image issues, ideas for supporting your teen and resources for you and your teen.

To register for this online workshop please click on this link:

[I Wish I Looked Like Them - Helping Teens
Navigate Body Image Issues Tickets, Fri 18
Oct 2024 at 12:30 | Eventbrite](#)

Staff Announcements

Parent Focus Group

Wallington High School for Girls is committed to strengthening our relationship with parents and involving them in our continued development as a school. As part of this we are looking to recruit for our 2024-25 Parent Focus Group; a consultative group which plays an important role in supporting the school in implementing and evaluating procedures and new initiatives.

The principle aim of the Parent Focus Group is to provide feedback and opinion on key issues or initiatives in the school such as curriculum provision, reporting or communication with parents. This group will meet once every half-term online or at the school, and meetings will follow an agreed agenda. Meetings will be scheduled for 6.00pm on a weekday night.

We are looking for parents to join this group who have:

- A desire to continue to improve school in a positive and productive forum,
- An ability to consider all students and whole school issues, and
- A willingness to attend a meeting once every half term per school year.

We are planning on holding the first meeting of this academic year in the first week after Autumn half-term break. Please note that this group is not a forum for parents to raise any individual concerns; this should be done through the usual channels.

If you are interested in becoming a member of this group, please [click here](#) and complete the form by Wednesday 9th October. As it is important to keep the group to a manageable size as we may not be able to accommodate everyone that is interested in joining.

If you were a member of the 2023-2024 group, many thanks for your support and please feel free to apply again.

-Mr J Donnelly
Assistant Headteacher
Wallington High School for Girls

Staff Announcements

Year 13 Interview Day 20th November 2024 (9:30 – 15:00) – Volunteers Needed

We are organising a special event for our year 13 students and are looking for volunteers to join us to help them develop a crucial life skill: interviewing.

Thank you to all those who have volunteered for this event so far, it is very much appreciated. Further information will be sent to you in the coming weeks. We still however, require some additional volunteers.

For many of our Year 13 students, this will be their first opportunity to experience a formal interview setting and as you will appreciate, this is an important skill to learn to give our students the confidence and a competitive edge when applying for higher education, apprenticeships or other employment opportunities in the future.

We require volunteers from all sectors but we have a particular need for; dentists and medical professionals, biochemists and biomedical scientists, architects, optometrists, lawyers, psychologists and individuals in the film and media industry.

What to expect:

We are seeking volunteers to conduct multiple 30 minute face-to-face practice interviews. Your role will involve asking questions, providing feedback, and sharing your insights and experiences. Where possible we will match your specialism to an appropriate student but we may also ask you to conduct a generic interview or one broadly related to your field. We are happy for you to use your own questions but you will also be supplied with examples to assist you. We are hoping for volunteers to attend the whole day, however we would still welcome your participation if you are only available for part of the day. Lunch and refreshments will be provided, and for some this may also be a great opportunity to network with other professionals in the local area.

How to volunteer:

If you are willing to volunteer, please could you complete the form [here](#).

Mrs L Parkinson
Careers Coordinator

Staff Announcements

Sports Achievements

Congratulations to Frema in Year 11, who competed at the All English Judo National competition at Norfolk over the weekend.

“Every year those in the England squad compete to eliminate and advance a set few towards their journey to the senior Team GB squad.

There were 19 girls in Frema's category and she had 6 fights only narrowly losing one. This is her first major competition since returning from injury.

Earning a medal now means she qualifies to form the few Cadet elite across the country who are still in the England development squad aiming for seniors in 3yrs time.”

Congratulations to Minha in year 8 who won the best bowler award for the U13 Sutton Girls cricket team.



-Mrs J Waight
Joint Head of Year 12
PE Teacher

Events

GCSE Music Recital 01/10/24

On Tuesday 1st October, we were treated to an evening of fantastic performances by our Year 10 and 11 Music students at our GCSE Recital. This was an opportunity for students not only to practice their performing skills but to share a variety of musical styles with an attentive audience. Their dedication and musicality stood out and they can be really proud of the performances they gave. We look forward to our next recital, taking place on Monday 11th November, for KS3 students; information about how to take part will be sent home and all are welcome to attend.

-Mrs M Ngobi (Head of Music)



Student message

Last Tuesday, GCSE music students performed at our recital, sharing a variety of skills and wonderful music, from pop to classical to Carnatic music. Some of our personal favourite pieces were: Over the bars; Etude No.2, El Choclo, Alive and loads more! Everyone played wonderfully and it was a very enjoyable night!

- Shambhavi 10P & Grace 10Sh



Staff Announcements

Is University right for me?

We are excited to invite you, your students and their parents to a unique and informative event hosted by the Psychology Department at Royal Holloway University of London.

Event: Is University Right for Me?

Date: Thursday 17th October 2024

Time: 18:00 – 20:00

Signup Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/is-university-right-for-me-tickets-1014445723467?aff=oddtcreator>

Location: Royal Holloway University of London Shilling Building. For Directions, see attached map and instructions

The Psychology department at Royal Holloway recognises the intense pressure A-level students have to make important decisions at such a young age. We know that given this pressure, many will be asking themselves 'Is University right for me?'. This event is specifically designed for students aged 16-18 who are contemplating their future educational paths. Our aim is to provide a comprehensive understanding of what university life entails and to help students make informed decisions about their next steps. The event will have a focus on psychology undergraduate degrees, but we encourage all students to attend, as the advice will be transferable. **Tickets are free and you can sign up following the Eventbrite link above. If you have any questions, please email Matt.Talbot@rhul.ac.uk**

Highlights of the Event:

- **Main Talk by Dr. Matthew Talbot:** Dr. Talbot, a Forensic Psychology researcher and Teaching Fellow at Royal Holloway, will offer a thought-provoking presentation on the realities of university life. He will tackle prevalent misconceptions, explore the genuine nature of the university experience, and emphasize the importance of early career planning. Dr. Talbot will provide a nuanced perspective on how university differs from school and will provide an honest and reflective discussion on the pitfalls that can arise whilst future planning in your late teens/early 20s. Additionally, he will address when university might not be the best fit, helping students to make well-informed decisions about their future.
- **Roundtable Discussion:** Hear directly from current university psychology undergraduates as they share their experiences around adjusting to university life, gaining work experience and any benefits/ regrets that have arisen from their choices. This session will include an opportunity for the audience to ask questions.
- **Snacks and Socialising:** Join us for a relaxed socialising session after the talks, with non-alcoholic refreshments and snacks. This is a great chance for students and their families to speak informally with current students and university staff, gaining personalized advice and answers to any questions about university life.

For a map/directions please contact Ms Clayton (hclayton@wallingtongirls.org.uk)

Parking

Parking Please note that parents are unable to park or drive into the school grounds between the hours of 7.30 -4.30 for safeguarding reasons. Families can contact our reception to ask for permission, where the needs arises for a pupil with mobility issues.

reception@wallingtongirls.org.uk

Please also ensure that when dropping your child at school each day, you are respectful of our local residents by not blocking drives and roads or impacting others safety by parking or dropping off your child(ren) irresponsibly

Changes in contact Information

If you need to update your home address or contact telephone number, emergency contacts or any other information, please send the updates to:

KS3 and 4 –
mandrews@wallingtongirls.org.uk

KS5 – jday@wallingtongirls.org.uk



Attendance

Requests for absence, including illness or appointments should be sent to:
attendance@wallingtongirls.org.uk

Please provide at least 2 full school days notice of a planned absence for the school to complete the required processes before the event.

Absences for longer than one day need to be confirmed at least 2 weeks prior to the event. Families should note that requests for holidays during term time will not be approved and penalty fines can be issued.

To notify WHSG of a leave of absence, please complete this form and return to the email above

Punctuality

Punctuality Good punctuality to both lessons and to school is expected of all students. We know that employers place great importance on punctuality and attendance, therefore it is important for our students to understand the value of being on time.

WHSG will issue same day, 20 min detentions for students that are late into school, without a valid reason or persistent lateness to classes. Parents and students will be notified as soon as possible of the detention and the reasoning by email.

We ask that parents support these actions as important processes for the school and understand that detentions cannot be moved for any after school clubs or enrichment events. Should a detention clash with a medical appointment, evidence will be requested for the school to show flexibility.