



Sydenham
High Prep

GDST
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

Prep School General Information

2019/2020

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Governance, Trustees and Senior Leadership Team

Sydenham High School Governing Body (SGB)

- **Miss Becki Holbrooke**
BSc MSc. MSc Education (Child Development and Education) (Oxford), MSc Psychology (OBU) - Chair
- **Mrs Angela Hall**
BA Hons (London) English - Deputy Chair
- **Mrs Deirdre Coolahan**
BCL (Oxford)
- **Dr Sanjay Prasad**
MD FRCP FESC FACC
- **Mrs Punita Hossain**
B.Eng(Hons) (Bristol) FBCS CITP FRSA
- **Mrs Andrea Egan**
BA (Exeter) Accounting, MSc (Belfast) Finance, Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries
- **Mr Cyprian Njamma**
MPhys (Oxford) Physics, MSc (London) Actuarial Finance, Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries, Investment Director
- **Miss Ruta Benetyte**
PGDip (London) - ARB Architect, Vita Architecture (RIBA) Director
- **Miss Sarah-Jane Pendleton**
BA (St Mary's)

The Chair of Governors can be contacted via the following email address: heads.pa@syd.gdst.net

Trustees

The Trustees of the school are the Trustees of the GDST, details of whom can be found on the GDST website (www.gdst.net). The Chairman of the Trustees, Juliet Humphries can be contacted via Alison Smith at the GDST office (a.smith@wes.gdst.net).

Prep Leadership Team

Headmistress: Mrs K Woodcock

BA (Bristol); PGCE

Head of Prep School: Ms V Goodson

MA (Durham), BA (Durham)

Deputy Head of Prep School: Mrs G Panton

MA (St Andrews), PGCE

Assistant Head of Prep School (Academic & Operations):

Mrs S Suaverdez

BA (Reading), PGCE

Head of Assessment, Reporting & Transition: Ms H Cuthbert

BA (Oxford), PGCE

Curriculum

Sydenham High School is a selective school and our aim is that every girl reaches her full academic potential. Girls at Sydenham High excel across the full range of subjects and we strive to ensure that every girl in our school is challenged at every level and we pride ourselves on delivering a first-class education and academic excellence.

Reception

It is our belief that the Early Years Foundation Stage is fundamental in instilling positive dispositions towards learning. The seven areas of learning and development that comprise the Early Years Foundation Stage are:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)
- Communication and Language (CL)
- Physical Development (PD)
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World (UTW)
- Expressive Arts and Design (EAD)

Years 1 & 2

Girls are introduced to our bespoke CONNECT+ curriculum which delivers integrated thematic studies of humanities, Art, Design and Technology alongside our core curriculum study of English, Maths, Science, Computing, Personal Social & Health Education (PSHE), Religious Education, French and Music.

Years 3-6

The timetable concentrates upon the development of core skills with an hour a day devoted to English and Maths. Subjects that have been introduced in the lower years are now extended and explored in greater depth with an emphasis upon honing skills of synthesis, analysis and collaboration.

Specialist Teaching

All Prep School pupils receive specialist teaching in French, Music and PE.

Pupils in years 3-6 also receive specialist teaching in Art, Design & Technology, and Latin.

Pastoral Care & the Golden Rules

We fundamentally believe that girls can only be successful when they are happy. Pastoral care is the cornerstone of our provision and we strive to ensure that each and every girl is supported to feel happy, safe and secure within our school community. There is strong pastoral support from teaching staff who see the girls every day and can closely monitor progress, both socially and emotionally, throughout the year.

We also have clear expectations of behaviour enshrined in our Golden Rules:

- We are kind, helpful and always consider others.
- We respect each other and celebrate our differences.
- We look after property and do not damage things.
- We work hard and do not waste time.
- We work together and make sure everything is fair.
- We listen to others and share our ideas.
- We are gentle and do not hurt others.
- We are honest and never cover up the truth.

Music

We aim to foster a love of music-making among all our pupils and we are proud that our programme offers opportunities open to all as well as audition-only activities which allow us to pursue an exceptionally high standard of musical accomplishment.

Our co-curricular clubs programme offers a range of choir, ensemble and percussion groups for pupils to join as well as range of one-to-one peripatetic music teaching. Many of our pupils study Associated Board of the Royal School of Music (ABRSM) examinations in a variety of instruments including strings, woodwind and brass.

Pupils working beyond Grade 1 are welcome to apply for a place in our vibrant Prep School Orchestra. Each term, we host formal and informal performances in which pupils not only showcase their talents but develop the confidence to perform before an audience. All pupils from years 3-6 belong to a choir and pupils in year 5 and year 6 can audition for a place in our Chamber Choir.

Drama

Alongside traditional nativities and Christmas productions, Prep School pupils take part in two large-scale drama productions in year 4 and year 6. These are staged at the Senior School to make the most of the specialist facilities at the Westwood Theatre and Longton Hall. Prep School pupils not only feature on stage but also support with lightning, sound, visual effects and stage management.

Alongside these large-scale events, pupils regularly have the opportunity to attend one of our after-school drama clubs, participate in assemblies to parents, and audition for our termly Speech & Drama Showcase. Pupils from reception to year 6 also regularly take up the opportunity to study for the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) accredited examinations and we are proud to be regular contributors to the Beckenham Festival each November.

Sport

Our approach to sport in the Prep School involves all pupils (from Reception to year 6) in keeping active, honing skills and developing a sense of team spirit. All pupils receive specialist Physical Education (PE) teaching each week.

From year 3, pupils have the opportunity to represent the school in numerous competitive fixtures and tournaments against other local schools as well as participate in regular GDST sporting rallies. In addition, all pupils come together once a term to participate in a major Inter-House sporting tournament. Swimming is a feature of the Prep School PE curriculum. All swimming takes place at Crystal Palace National Sports Centre which is just a short walk from the Prep School site. From year 5, pupils can trial for membership to our Swim Squad.

As well as making use of the large gymnasium and all-weather pitch facilities at Senior School, Prep School pupils frequently use our Sports Ground in Lower Sydenham for athletics events and Sports Days.

Clubs and Activities

Girls in the Prep School enjoy a rich and varied school day with generous allocations of time and specialist teaching and this is further reflected in our wide ranging co-curricular programme. We offer over 60 clubs each week which run either before, after or during the school day. The school buzzes with children having fun, discovering new passions, and exploring their talents.

In addition to a wide range of sport, music, art and drama activities, we offer an extensive range of clubs which change on a termly basis. These include activities such as debating, philosophy, fencing, calligraphy and chess. A list of clubs and activities can be found on our website.

Open Events & Taster Days

Getting a real sense of what is so unique about our school is important. That's why we offer Open Events and Taster Days throughout the school year and look forward to welcoming you soon.

A Taster Morning is a wonderful way for your daughter to experience life at Sydenham High first hand. Places for our Taster Mornings are limited and registration, via our website, is essential. Please see below for upcoming dates.

Whole School Open Morning	Saturday 14 September	9am-1pm
Open Morning	Thursday 17 October	9.30am-11am
Open Morning	Thursday 26 March	9.30am-11am

Taster Morning (4+)
Wednesday 6 November

Taster Morning (7+)
Thursday 7 November

Admissions

4+ (Reception) Entry

The Admissions process

Your daughter will be asked to take part in a playgroup session with the class teachers lasting approximately one hour. We will assess numeracy skills, early phonics awareness, conversation skills and interaction with other pupils. We also request a report from your daughter's nursery.

Registration

Registration is completed online in the admissions section of our website. The non-returnable fee of £100 (£125 for overseas students) is charged to cover the application and assessment process. If you wish your daughter to be considered for 2020 entry to the school, please submit an application by Monday 25 November 2019.

Entrance assessment

For 2020 entry, the Entrance assessments will take place on Thursday 9 and Friday 10 January 2020.

Results

The results of the assessment process will be posted home one week after your daughter's assessment date. The deadline for response to all 4+ offers is Friday 7 February 2020.

7+ (Year 3) Entry

The Admissions process

Your daughter will be required to sit assessment papers: English and Maths, followed by a team-building and collaboration exercise. Offers will be made to applicants whose performance in the assessments indicates an ability to cope proficiently with the level, challenge and pace of our Prep School curriculum. In addition, we request a reference from all applicants' current schools.

Registration

Registration is completed online in the admissions section of our website. The non-returnable fee of £100 (£125 for overseas students) is charged to cover the application and assessment process. If you wish your daughter to be considered for 2020 entry to the school, please submit an application by 25 November 2019.

Entrance assessment

For 2020 entry, the entrance assessments will be on Tuesday 3 December 2019 or Thursday 5 December 2019.

Results

The results of the assessment process will be posted home on Friday 13 December 2019. The deadline for response to all 7+ offers is Friday 14 February 2020.

Entry to other year groups

Occasionally, there are places available in other year groups or mid-term. Please contact Admissions on 020 8557 7004 or email us at admissions@syd.gdst.net to discuss the application process. The registration fee for an occasional place is £100.

Fees 2019/20

Senior School 2019/20

£5,775 per term or £17,325 annually

Prep School 2019/20

£4,541 per term or £13,623 annually

Fees are paid directly to the GDST and include most text books. Fees can be paid termly in advance or by monthly direct debit. School lunch is charged separately and is compulsory for pupils up to and including year 11. The cost is approximately £237 per term.

Uniform

Girls are expected to identify themselves with Sydenham High School by wearing their uniform neatly and without adaptations. All compulsory uniform items must be bought online from www.schoolblazer.com. Everything should be named, and a free name-taping service is available through Schoolblazer. Full uniform regulations are available on our website.

Journey to school

Our students travel to school from a relatively wide geographical area and we recognise that easy transportation will be an important factor in your choice of school and in your daughter's enjoyment of her day.

We run several mini-bus routes to make it even easier for girls to reach us and to offer flexibility for parents. Transport arrives at school by 8.25am and departs at 4pm.

Bus services run by the School

From Dulwich / Herne Hill
From Camberwell / Peckham / East Dulwich / Herne Hill
From Bromley / West Wickham / Beckenham
From Clapham / Balham / Streatham
From East & West Dulwich
From Herne Hill

Places on the school minibus are given for the academic year. Any intention to cancel or withdraw from the service must be communicated in writing to the Transport team (transport@syd.gdst.net) with half a term's notice.

Trains

Sydenham station is a 10 minute walk from the school. There are direct trains to major interchanges including London Bridge, Norwood Junction and East Croydon. The London Overground line from Highbury and Islington to West Croydon also stops at Sydenham, meaning that girls can also travel from Canada Water and Docklands as well as stations north of the river. The school is also within walking distance of Crystal Palace bus station.

Buses

The 450 and 122 stop on Westwood Hill just outside the school, and the 227 on Westwood Hill/Crystal Palace Park Road.

Wraparound care

We understand the importance of before and after school provision for busy and working parents which is why we provide a Wraparound Care facility for all Prep School pupils from 7.30am each morning (Breakfast Club) until 6.15pm every evening (After School Club).

Our Wraparound Care facility is operated by Sydenham High School staff which allows close liaison with Prep School class teachers and parents. A programme of varied activities ensures pupils attending Wraparound Care can relax and enjoy some free time before and after school. Wraparound Care sessions in either Breakfast Club or After School Club are available on a regular or ad-hoc basis – but all must be booked in advance online

Cost

30 mins	£4.00
1 hour	£8.00
1.5 hours	£12
2 hours	£15
2 hours+	£18

Parents are billed directly on a monthly basis by our Finance Office. Payments can be made by bank transfer or Parent Pay and we also accept childcare vouchers.

Contact details

Prep School

15 Westwood Hill
London SE26 6BL

020 8557 7070
prep@syd.gdst.net

Admissions:
020 8557 7004
admissions@syd.gdst.net

Senior School & Sixth Form

19 Westwood Hill
London SE26 6BL

020 8557 7000
senior@syd.gdst.net

Admissions:
020 8557 7004
admissions@syd.gdst.net

Website:

www.sydenhamhighschool.gdst.net

We keep our website up to date with all our current news. All our major policies are published on the website, as is the calendar for each term.



020 8557 7000 | prep@syd.gdst.net | sydenhamhighschool.gdst.net
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