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Highsted

Grammar School

Her
discovery
begins here...



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Highsted's Head Girl Team provide support in so many areas of school life; they are excellent role models for our younger students.

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A message from the Headteacher

The adventure your daughter embarks upon when she joins Highsted will be an exciting and challenging one. At Highsted, we view education as a creative process. Our vision is to lead a happy and cohesive community which fosters academic, emotional and physical confidence. In doing this we create inspirational learners who have the courage to take risks and the wisdom to learn from their mistakes. Highsted is an environment that liberates young women to embrace the challenges that will prepare them for their future roles and responsibilities as leaders in tomorrow's society.

Our success is as a consequence of striking a fine balance between tradition and innovation. Our values are traditional ones and we offer an unashamedly academic curriculum. We are keenly aware, however, that we are preparing our students for a working life none of us can yet anticipate. Our focus, therefore, is on developing the skills, attributes and habits of mind that will equip our young women as life-long learners. Our aim is to launch them into the world as self-starters, focused but flexible, armed with the courage to grasp opportunities and the resilience and humour to negotiate setbacks along the way.

We encourage and support our students in exploring their own potential, nurturing existing talents and interests and discovering new ones along the way. To ensure we enable each and every girl to fulfil

her potential, an emphasis is placed on personalisation, on proactive mentoring and on pastoral care. Our students will embark upon adult life conscious of their worth, ambitious for their futures and aware that they are lucky indeed to have been educated here.

We hope that in Highsted you will find not just a place of schooling, but a society, a family – a place of life-long learning that will support, encourage and promote all the opportunities we strive to give each and every member of our community. Our school will provide a safe environment where your daughter will relish the challenge of becoming a creative high achiever, prepared for leadership and accountability in a world that is just and sustainable.

I look forward to welcoming you to our school.

Anne Kelly
Headteacher

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Highlighting talents



Highsted's Tarantula Club and Animal Husbandry Club are tremendously popular, particularly among our youngest students.

The Highsted Planner is a vital part of school life as it emphasises the importance of students managing their own time responsibly.



As a grammar school we take seriously our responsibility to nurture the individual talent of each student. The development of the whole individual is an important part of our ethos and as such, a far-ranging programme of enrichment is offered to the school. We have a proud tradition of participation and success in individual and team sports, achieving honours at both County and National levels. The school specialises in all aspects of musical performance and competition and a major drama production takes place every year.

The challenges our students face do not end in the classroom but are extended in all that they do, encouraging them to grow as individuals, preparing them for life beyond Highsted.

Each student enters Highsted as a young girl, full of enthusiasm and curiosity and leaves as a creative, strong and independent young woman, prepared to face her future with confidence.



It is astonishing how easily and quickly our youngest students settle into the Highsted routine and make new friends.



One of Highsted's annual events, eagerly anticipated by Year 7 pupils, is the Tea Party.

This event, held each November, is the opportunity for each pupil to invite a guest to join them for an hour of conversation, tea and cake. Their guest might be their former

Year 6 teacher or headteacher, a new member of Highsted's teaching staff or a Highsted Governor

"The atmosphere was amazing! It was great seeing my old school teachers and it was lovely to sing in the choir" Emily Jepson

"I loved seeing my old teachers...the atmosphere in the hall was very happy" Katie Pelling

"I got a thrill from seeing my primary school teachers in a great atmosphere... I was glad I took part" Alex Horton

"It was a fantastic event. I loved seeing my old teachers again and playing host. I enjoyed every second, from decorating the table to singing to our guests." Gabije Barkute

"Highsted Grammar School provides an outstanding standard of education and care for its pupils."

Ofsted





German Language exchange trip to Nuremberg

Investigating opportunities

At the heart of an excellent school is a curriculum that moves with the times, is not frightened to offer challenges, is one that instils a passion for learning and ignites intellectual curiosity, preparing learners for their next step.

At Highsted we are committed to achieve excellence in everything we do across the curriculum within a happy and purposeful environment. Active learning, breadth and variety are at the heart of the whole school's success but even more importantly, we believe learning must be fun!

Throughout the emphasis is on encouraging a lively and enquiring mind supported by all that a selective school has to offer in fostering critical thinking, independent thought, individual talent and leadership.

By combining traditional values with evolving technologies, Highsted is able to prepare young people today for leadership tomorrow; from little girls to energetic, confident and ambitious young women... this is the discovery of Highsted!

“Relationships at all levels are excellent... staff and learners show mutual respect for each other.”
Ofsted





Growing & belonging

“Pupils’ excellent attitudes to learning and the quality of teaching they receive are key factors in their success. Behaviour is exemplary both in lessons and around the school.”

Ofsted

From our students we expect the highest standards of personal conduct, the best possible academic performance and a real commitment to the wider life of the school. In return, we help each girl to develop her talents to the full by working in partnership with parents, by providing a demanding but stimulating approach to teaching and learning, and by presenting challenging opportunities for your daughter as an individual and as a member of a team.

Highsted is a school that provides a safe environment, where children can grow, where respect is central and where boundaries are clear - a school with a clear framework of discipline that offers focus on what is important, in particular the development of self-discipline to underpin freedom and choice.

At Highsted, girls are rightly proud to belong to their House group and actively participate within their community; during her time here your daughter will get to know members from her House, not only from her form, her year group, but across the school.

Your choice of school is one of the most important decisions you will make, and nothing is more important than the welfare, happiness and progress of your daughter.

Highsted girls are known for creating a good impression within the school and outside it.

Students know where they stand as the school requires a consistently high standard of personal presentation.



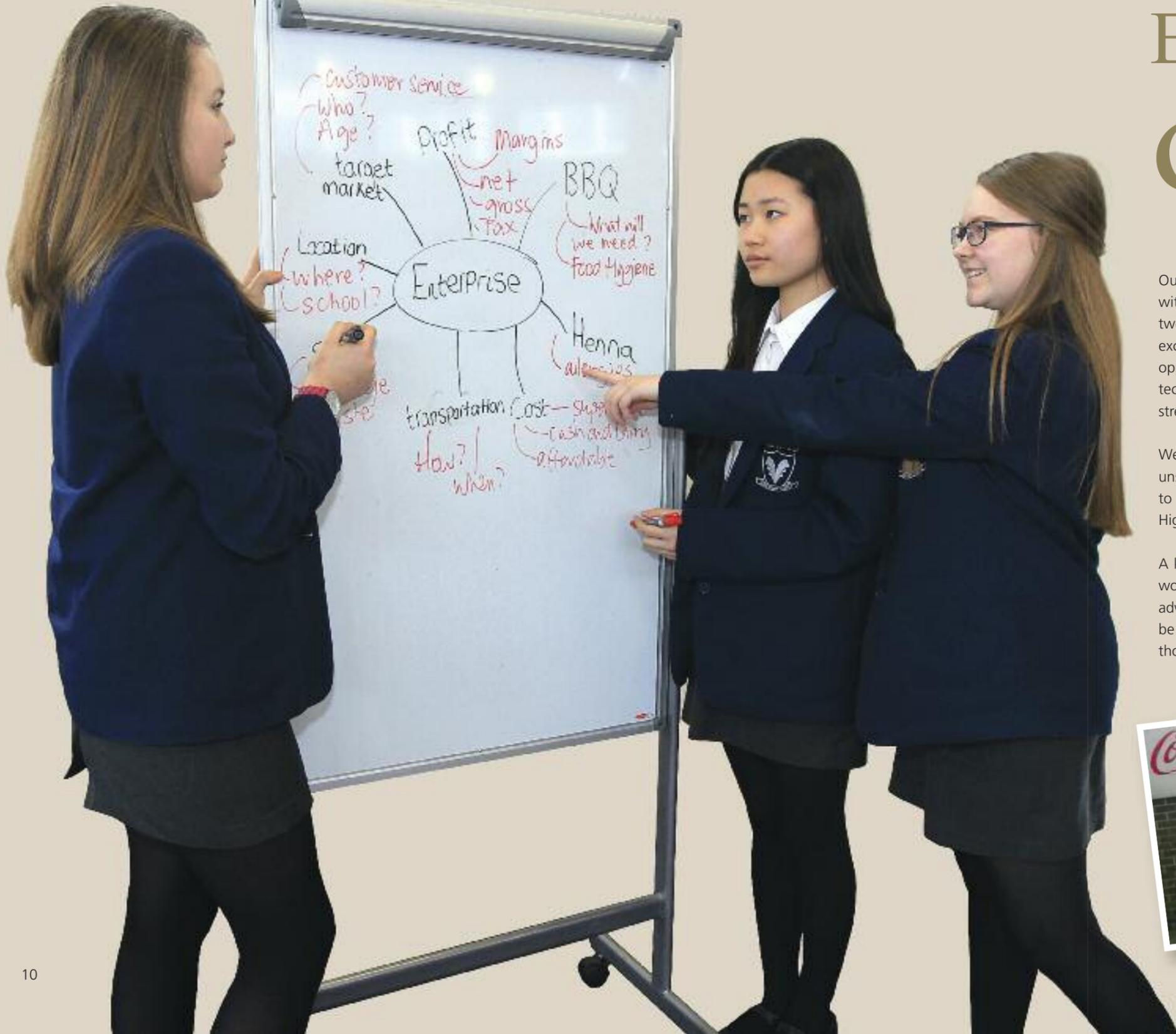
Harnessing creativity

At Highsted we believe very little can be achieved in our lives without the input of creative people. By harnessing a creative approach to learning, we encourage students to think about and address ethical, moral, cultural and social issues with creativity. Making acts of imagination come to life takes skill, knowledge, flair, dedication, organisation and belief to take exciting risks. Visualising, interpreting and making are really powerful ways that Highsted students express their ideas, solve problems and shape their world.

We are confident that when our girls take a creative approach to their learning, they are enabled to acquire the tools and knowledge necessary to create individual responses to a variety of issues; at Highsted an ability to express oneself creatively is essential, not only to understand life but to live it fully.



Enterprising & competitive



Our curriculum has a traditional grammar school framework, with a particular emphasis on preparing for success in the twenty-first century. As a school we understand the need for excellence in all subjects, and we recognise the vast range of opportunities for women in many aspects of engineering and technology, the arts and business – using the very female strengths of communication, problem solving and teamwork.

We do not accept that there are areas of study that are unsuitable for our students because of their gender – from artist to politician; engineer to zoologist, there is no career in which Highsted girls cannot and do not excel.

A key part of our aim, therefore, is to prepare for a changing world. At Highsted we recognise the need for a real grasp of the advantages and disadvantages of future technologies – how to be a discerning user of the tools that are available, as well as those that we can only begin to imagine at this point in time!

“The school is very inclusive and there is strong focus on encouraging both academic achievement and personal development.”
Ofsted



Chanel, Eliot, Franklin, Keller, Roddick and Seacole: Highsted's enthusiastic and competitive House system inspires tremendous pride and loyalty in our girls.



Highsted students regularly visit commercial and industrial companies in connection with their studies. This trip to a facility in Sidcup was to observe mass and flow production.





Highsted is a community which celebrates diversity and brings together in harmony girls from a wide variety of backgrounds.

Strength & resilience

“Learners feel extremely safe and well cared for; teachers know them well and give them excellent guidance and support.”

Ofsted

As a grammar school we are proud to build on traditional values and standards to prepare our students for their future. We believe in a value system which helps children to know what is right and respectful and through that, what is not right – what is damaging to the individual, to the community or to society. We place a strong emphasis on life and leadership skills, alongside academic achievement.

To succeed at school students must feel secure. At Highsted we are committed to keeping our students safe from bullying, harassment and discrimination. There are prefects and mentors to support them through their schooling and, if times get tough, there is always someone to turn to.

We teach our girls to become increasingly responsible for their own safety and that of others. We show them how to make the right decisions and what to do when things go wrong. We guide them through the obstacles and hazards of teenage life, and when the risks are too high, we provide the safety net that gives them the confidence to try again.

It is our ambition that Highsted students should leave school with a passion for learning which will last them a lifetime. By encouraging creativity and originality alongside honesty, sensitivity and compassion, we believe that our students will develop the capacity to meet the many challenges of the modern world and, at the same time, lead happy and fulfilled lives.



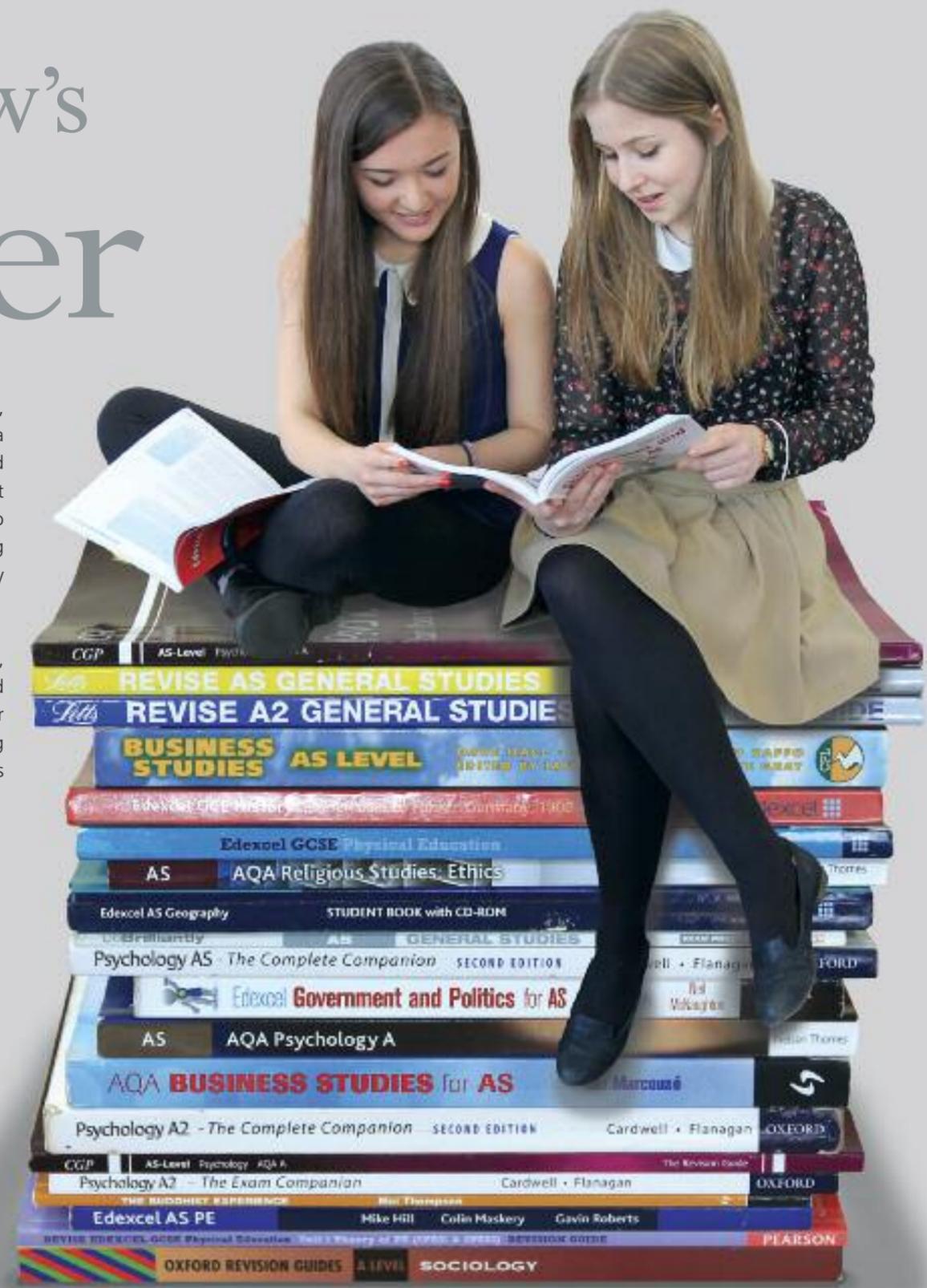


Tomorrow's leader

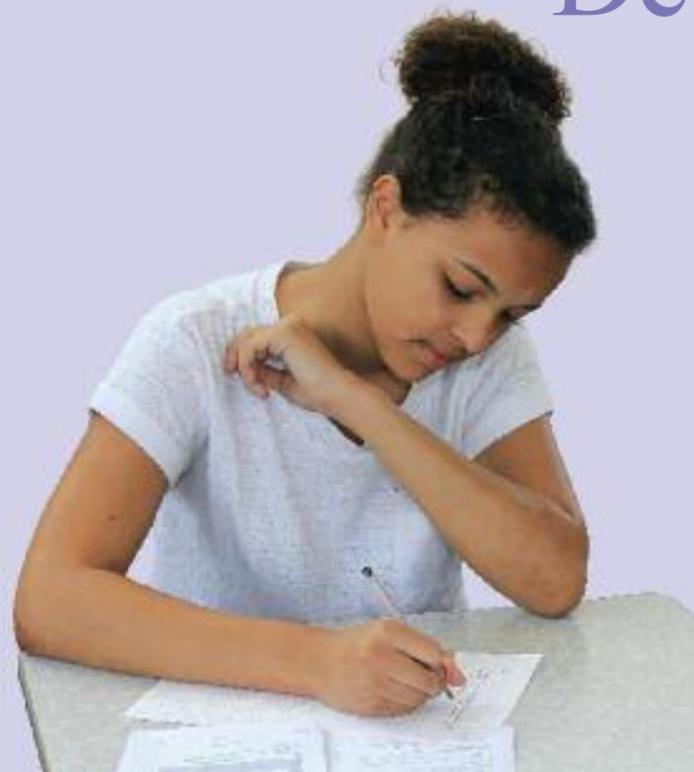
Ever since it began more than a century ago, Highsted Grammar School has developed a curriculum for more able girls that is broad and challenging in every way. We have built on traditional values and qualities in order to meet our future needs – outstanding academic achievement, creativity, flexibility and leadership.

Highsted encourages every young girl to seek, to learn today so that they are fully equipped to shape to lead tomorrow. Our aim is for each girl to grow into a mature young woman, naturally proud to be part of this story of personal discovery.

“Learners make excellent progress and the great majority reach or exceed their challenging targets... standards are outstanding.”
Ofsted



Determined for her future



“Academic guidance is very personalised and encourages pupils’ self-reflection.”
Ofsted

At Highsted we expect each girl to set herself high standards, work hard, contribute to the community that she is a part of and be what we know she is – a determined achiever!

Your daughter will leave our school not only with the very best qualifications that reflect her ability, but as a well-rounded young adult, confident and articulate with a strong understanding of her skills and talents, equipped to stand up for a purpose greater than herself.

We are confident that high performing girls create life-changing experiences with others so, if you wish to take advantage of the highest standards of teaching for your daughter, where students really want to learn and be successful, then invest in her future, let her embark on her journey of discovery at Highsted!

