



What might
you find?



at



NBH

CANONBURY
SENIOR • SIXTH FORM



Situated just off leafy Canonbury Square, nestled behind the vibrant Upper Street, NBH Canonbury Senior School & Sixth Form is a rare find. Beyond our location being a cultural and historic hotspot, just five minutes' walk from Highbury & Islington tube station, we are an 'Excellent' school where children can be themselves in a supportive setting.

Smaller year groups and high staff to student ratios enable teaching to take a truly bespoke route - identifying the best in every child so that they can find their True North. Children are noticed and their talents celebrated, wherever they may lie.

Although we have a smaller capacity of 250 students, we are a school that delivers a mighty breadth of opportunity both within and outside of the school walls. Take our curriculum, for example, which breeds everything from excellence in STEM to competent stone masons, or our co-curricular programme, which sees students attend lectures at the Royal Geographical Society and 'takeover' exhibitions at the neighbouring Estorick Collection of Modern Italian Art.

The school building itself is characterised by its original Tudor architecture, which is juxtaposed with contemporary teaching facilities, sophisticated use of tech, and provides specialist spaces for science, art and - in the historic King Edward's Hall - drama.

The House system is at the centre of our close-knit school community; the school calendar is rife with House competitions, events and charity initiatives, which are embraced by staff and students alike. While staff members are selected for Head of House roles, students are awarded leadership positions, such as prefect and Head Student, which ensure the student voice is upheld as an integral part of our school.

Our curriculum is broad, creative and character-building, designed to not only develop excellent skills and knowledge, but to inspire the pursuit of personal strengths and interests. From Mandarin to Government and Politics, Art and Design to Psychology, our curriculum develops skilled communicators, rigorously prepared to enter higher education and the constantly evolving global job market.

Endless opportunities to present and perform are embedded throughout the curriculum and complemented by our thriving arts department, which sees students master a range of disciplines, including sculpture and lighting and set design.

We provide a broad range of specialist subject options in addition to the core academic subjects, and every year group benefits from our timetabled weekly enrichment programme. Enrichment sees pupils explore an exhaustive list of topics beyond the conventional curriculum, ranging from LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts) and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, to the student newspaper and the ever popular 'Plants, People and the Planet', which combines mindfulness and gardening with environmental council. These enrichment experiences motivate, challenge and develop the individual, equipping students with a wider skill set to enhance their university and job applications.

At GCSE, students select three subjects to study alongside the compulsory English Language, English Literature, Maths and Science (combined and triple awards), before specialising in three to four subjects of their choice at A-Level. Subject options range from Further Maths and Economics to Photography and Classics, and where sufficient student demand exists, we will always look to build on our diverse offering.





Our staff adopt a 'high support, low pressure' approach to helping every student achieve more than they believed possible. Their commitment to inspiring a lifelong love of learning and enjoyment of their subject results in students achieving outcomes which way surpass their academic trajectories. Staff work together with each and every student to help them find their own individual passion - their area of excellence - and what success looks like for them, guiding them on a journey to find their True North.

Small class sizes facilitate the very best of research-informed, "differentiated and hi-tech teaching" (Good Schools Guide), with our staff dedicated to understanding the individual and how they learn most effectively, whilst enriching all areas of the curriculum.





“Older pupils are particularly eloquent about the effect that the school, and especially the senior staff, has had on their development and achievement, citing the support of their teachers.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate, 2023





Taking a more modern approach to sport than a lot of independent schools, we introduce students to as many different activities as possible, with the aim to find a sport for everyone.

Rather than focusing on one sport per term, all students are exposed to 12 sports on the curriculum in Years 7 and 8, revisiting them in Years 9 and 10 to develop their skills and interests. We then continue to offer the majority of these sports at GCSE.

From the Sobell Leisure Centre to Regent's Park and Lee Valley Indoor Athletics Centre (a key training facility for the London 2012 Olympic Games), we make full use of the premium sports facilities in the local vicinity. Students also have access to specialist facilities for outdoor adventure and water sports, as well as martial arts and fitness classes. A generous selection of sports are also incorporated into our extra-curricular provision - ranging from judo and fencing to netball and gymnastics - providing pupils with the opportunity to expand their talents and interests beyond the curriculum.

A number of our keen athletes represent the school at regional and national Independent Schools Association tournaments, in both individual and team sports, while others compete in local, friendly fixtures.



Our broad offering of extra-curricular activities aims to enrich pupils' learning experience and foster talents beyond the curriculum. Clubs run before and after school and include science, sport and fitness groups, as well as rehearsals for school productions. Meanwhile, our published young writers, aspiring film critics and avid readers immerse themselves in creative writing, foreign film and book clubs.

Students also enjoy leading on and participating in a range of charitable events, such as cake bake sales which raise awareness for the LGBTQ+ community and underprivileged young people, or 'Wear It Green Day' which funds the growth of our NBH forest; an initiative to help reforest the planet and see a greener tomorrow. Outreach projects include litter picking in the local community and visiting the elderly, whilst Student Wellbeing Ambassadors contribute to our immediate and supportive school environment.

Beyond the school walls we host many trips, day and residential, to the UK and abroad - Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Borneo, Malawi and the US, to name a few. We also make use of our very own outdoor activity centres in Hertfordshire and South Wales, which provide a wide range of outdoor adventure and water sports and purposeful character development.









Our pastoral provision is integrated into every facet of school life, to help navigate the sometimes challenging path from childhood to young adulthood.

Starting senior school in itself can often be a little daunting, which is why we break the ice, initiate friendships and ease our Year 7 students' transition with an exciting outdoor adventure trip - aimed specifically at team-building and confidence boosting - within their very first term.

Across all year groups, students continue to meet with their Form Tutor every day, not simply for registration, but for teachers to fulfil their duty of care and establish valuable and trusting relationships with tutees. We create an environment in which pupils feel seen and heard, with specialist support also available from our on-site counsellor and SENCo (Specialist Educational Needs Co-ordinator). Guest speaker sessions on topics such as social media and body image further help students, staff and parents alike.

Our carefully designed PSHE programme informs students about the facts concerning their growth and development and sees them learn how to deal with a range of personal, social and moral issues as part of the curriculum, preparing our pupils to leave us as confident and empathetic young adults.

Ultimately, student wellbeing is at the heart of everything we do; academic success is inextricably linked with physical and mental health, which is why we promote wellbeing through expert-led workshops and talks. The Cognita 'Be Well Charter' further provides the whole school community with access to a wide range of wellbeing resources, while our use of evidence-based research allows us to best understand our pupils and support their personal development, and has led to us implementing a later midweek start time in line with the teenage body clock.

Our students' academic achievements go hand in hand with their excellent personal development. Each Year 11 and 13 cohort add to our impressive track record of GCSE and A-Level results, upholding a high performance across a range of academic and creative disciplines. Students frequently celebrate significant success in STEAM and modern foreign languages.

We are committed to providing a firm foundation for higher education and employment; students are carefully guided on A-Level choices, degree programmes and university selection. They also benefit from expert careers advice, UCAS support, and one-to-one mentoring if invited to interview or applying to Oxbridge. North Bridge House graduates secure university places at leading Russell Group destinations, including Oxford and Cambridge, as well as renowned arts, international and overseas institutions.

“Analysis of school data, lesson observations and work scrutiny show that at both GCSE and A level, most pupils attain grades higher than expected for those of their ability, in line with the school’s aim to enable their pupils to achieve their potential academically... Academic outcomes are excellent for all pupils whatever their challenges and starting points.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate, 2023









To begin your journey at NBH Canonbury Senior & Sixth Form, please visit northbridgehouse.com/open or use the QR code to book an Open Event or private tour. See the school in action, meet the Head and, most importantly, our students, to get a real feel for our wonderful Canonbury community.

Our admissions process is stress-free; we are academically non-selective, meaning that we assess a child's potential as opposed to setting a pass mark based on attainment scores. Our aim is to ensure that all students will be able to access and engage with our broad curriculum and will be happy in our school environment. Visit our website to find out more about the assessment and interview we conduct for entry into all year groups, with Years 7 (age 11+), 9 (age 13+) and 12 (age 16+) being the main intake points.

Students who demonstrate academic excellence or excellence in the creative and performing arts are invited to apply for a scholarship.

To apply for a place at NBH Canonbury Senior School, please complete and submit an online application form.

We recognise how important it is to find the right school for your child and our Admissions Team are always happy to help with navigating this process. Should you have any queries, or if you are looking for an occasional mid-year vacancy, please contact us on 020 7428 1520 or email joinus@northbridgehouse.com







Founded in 1939, North Bridge House offers an independent, mixed ability co-education for ages 2 to 18, challenging and inspiring pupils throughout every stage of their school career. Across four North London schools, we successfully prepare happy pupils for every milestone, guiding them on the not always smooth journey from early learner to pre-teen to young adult.

At whichever entry point families join us, we pride ourselves on getting to know and understand every pupil as an individual, helping them to find a direction in life that reflects their unique talents and personality. We are focused on delivering a forward-thinking, progressive teaching and learning experience, which sets our pupils on a clear path to find what we refer to as their 'True North'. Everything we do is centred around our pupils and is rooted in our purpose and vision.

Purpose - to celebrate the individual within our diverse NBH community.

Vision - we awaken the potential of every individual to find their True North.

At North Bridge House, in order to fulfil our purpose and vision, we are committed to four aims:

- To **create** a dynamic learning environment in which all children discover their individual pathway to academic success
- To **empower** young people to be creative, inspired and to inspire
- To **equip** young people with the confidence, humility and resilience to thrive in everything they do
- To **nurture** strong relationships within an inclusive, empathetic community

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 @nbhcanonbury
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 @NBHschool
 #findyourtruenorth



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