



NORTHAMPTON  
HIGH SCHOOL

GDST  
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

# Made for Girls

From 2-18 years

From our original sites in Northampton's Cultural Quarter,  
to our thoroughly modern purpose-built site in Hardingstone,  
Northampton High School has always been and always  
will be *Made for Girls*.



**Northampton High School**  
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nhsadmin@nhs.gdst.net  
[www.northamptonhigh.co.uk](http://www.northamptonhigh.co.uk)

September 2023





We believe  
in our girls  
and they  
believe in  
themselves.



NORTHAMPTON  
HIGH SCHOOL  
GDST



# Educating girls for a brave new world

Northampton High is a happy, purposeful place of intellectual enquiry and personal growth, where everything we do is for girls by design.

Underpinned by our core values of always putting girls first and empowering them to trust in themselves, we firmly believe that girls should have limitless opportunities. If they aspire to speak multiple languages, we will equip them; if they want to become ground-breaking scientists, we will give them the tools and skills to achieve this dream.

At Northampton High, girls have the space to be seen and the voice to be heard; they are inspired to think for themselves and enjoy and celebrate success, however they may define it.

My own positive experiences of a girls-only, all-through education only fuel my passion and commitment to what we are doing here at Northampton High. Nurturing and shaping remarkable young women. Preparing them for the challenges of life. Helping them to break the mould.

*We are Northampton High,  
we are  
Made for Girls.*

Dr May Lee  
Head





# Learning without limits

**GDST**  
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

**There's an inescapable truth about girls; they learn differently to boys and thrive in an environment that's built just for them\*.**

It's there in the research and we witness it daily. Our girls can try and fail without judgement. Develop their own identities. Step up and lead or play a supporting role. Build their self-worth and social skills. And we prepare them for a coed world.

This includes discussing and encouraging healthy relationships, exploring how a mortgage works and providing the emotional support they need to navigate life.

And as well as being able to draw on our own expertise, we're also part of the Girls' Day Schools Trust (GDST), the UK's leading family of girls' schools. Together, we share knowledge, benefit from pioneering research, and provide our girls with even more opportunities, during their school days and beyond.

We believe that a girls-only education is more important today than ever.

\*Why (and how) girls thrive in girls-only schools, Kevin Stannard, MA PhD.  
The GDST Perspective, updated August 2022



“Our research shows that in classrooms without boys, girls feel more free to pursue a wider range of subjects, to participate more actively in lessons, challenge others' views, take leadership roles and work collaboratively.”

The GDST Difference: Designing education for girls' futures

**Discover more about the GDST and their research.**





There are many defining features and attributes to a Northampton High education and one of them is the holistic approach that underpins our academic, cocurricular and pastoral, or Learn, Reach and Coach, programmes.

# Uniquely Northampton High





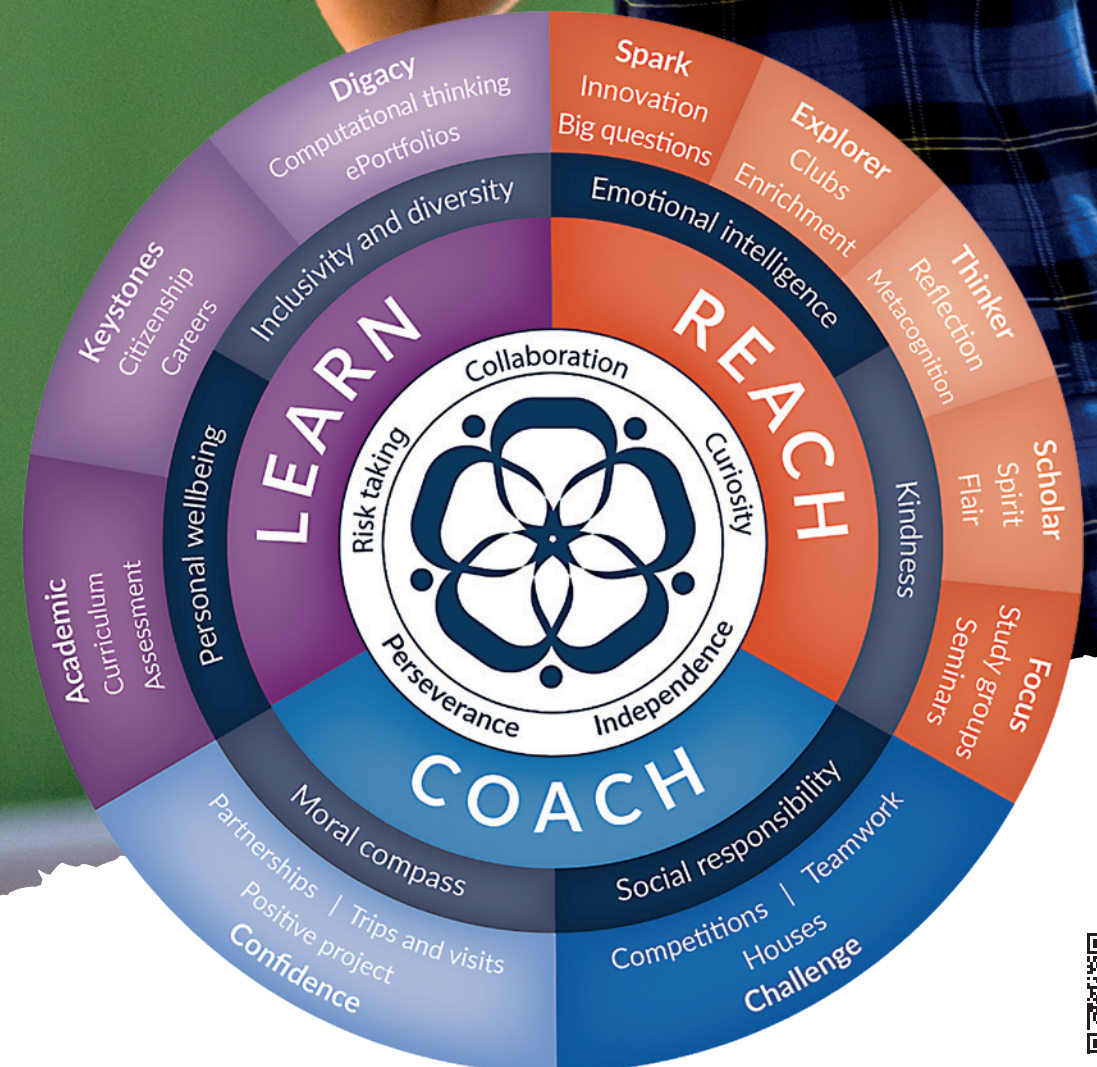
# Our holistic approach

**Our pupils are at the heart of everything we do. School days are precious and fleeting, and a golden opportunity for a rich and fulfilling educational experience.**

Our holistic approach to education – reflected by the Northampton High Wheel – ensures a 360° academic, cocurricular and pastoral programme for girls, at every age and stage.

There's a simple theory behind it: Girls need to be self-aware as they shape their future in the way they learn and develop. Teachers need to know each and every girl to support them. And the school needs to do all it can to provide a rounded and grounded education that's made for girls.

Our shared language around five key intellectual characteristics – Collaboration, Curiosity, Independence, Perseverance and Risk taking – provides the foundation of our educational framework, to help girls grow and realise their individual potential.



To find out more about the Northampton High Wheel, scan here.



# Breaking The mould



Finding the best ways to educate girls and young women is in our DNA.

We have always been unapologetically committed to supporting our girls in tearing up the rule book on what they can and can't achieve. So that they can grab every and any opportunity with both hands. So that one day they can be truly equal.

As we look ahead to our 150th anniversary in 2028, we remain true to our vision:

Our girls have the space and voice to be seen and heard

Our girls are part of an inclusive, thriving community

Our girls believe everything is possible



# A tailored approach

Without the expectation and distraction of being a good influence on boys, and free from sweeping generalisations on 'girls subjects', the only academic boundaries are the ones our girls set themselves.

Every learning journey is different because every learning profile is unique. Our tailored approach, where different learning styles, needs and abilities are embraced and supported, helps girls to develop academically and achieve their own goals.

Whether a pupil is aged 2, 18 or in between, she will benefit from an expert tailor-made approach.



# Designed to develop with room to grow

Located on a beautiful  
27-acre campus


Excellent  
purpose-built  
facilities for  
girls 2-18

Easily accessible on the  
outskirts of Northampton

Plentiful  
parking to  
ease drop off  
and pick up

A comprehensive  
network of Northampton  
High minibuses serves  
a wide geographical  
catchment





All of our pupils swim in our pool from the age of three and a half.

# Beyond The classroom

For all we pride ourselves on our academic reputation, our cocurricular programme, with a range of enrichment and Electives, plays a significant role in how girls develop and the life skills and competencies they build.

We want girls to broaden their horizons and be rounded and grounded. So, they are encouraged to explore cocurricular activities that can add to their core skills alongside those that challenge them in different ways, to develop new interests and complementary skills.



Whether you're 2 or 18, enrichment opportunities exist right across our school. There are trips in the UK and abroad. Clubs and societies, influenced and led by our girls. Sport from football to netball, tennis to cricket. Incredible arts facilities. Leadership positions throughout the school and dedicated Sixth Form opportunities. And the chance to support and engage with our local community.

There are over 100 clubs and societies on offer every week – before lessons, at lunchtime and after school.



Junior pupils exploring our Forest School.



Senior and Sixth Form students exploring CERN and surrounds, Switzerland.





# Stronger Together

**The final piece of the puzzle that makes our community so special is our dedication to the highest level of pastoral care.**

Navigating the journey through childhood into your teenage years can be challenging – friendships, families, exams, hormones, external influences and the confidence dip that research shows affects girls between the ages of 14-18\*.

This is why we have a safety net for if they fall, with our Wellbeing HQ at the centre of what we do. There's an experienced team with all the tools and strategies to provide emotional support.

We encourage girls to talk about their feelings. Class teachers and tutors are readily available. And kind, empathetic friends provide all important peer-to-peer support.

All of this combines seamlessly to weave its way through school life. The House system brings together our school community, and our older girls support their younger peers across various activities to help our pupils find their feet and feel settled.

**On a daily basis we strive to build their resilience, so that they are able to face the ever-increasing challenges of the wider world, and we witness them demonstrating positivity, goodwill and all-round support of their peers.**

Miss Kneen  
Deputy Head Pastoral

\*The Girls' Futures Report 2022, GDST



in our  
fearlessness.

WE ARE

undivided

in our  
commitment  
to putting our  
pupils first.

in our sense  
of family,  
where every  
individual  
is valued,  
respected,  
and included.



Here at Northampton High and across the wider GDST family, we have a non-negotiable commitment to Diversity and Inclusion. Every girl is seen and every voice is heard. Everyone's opinion is valued and everyone will be supported to achieve their goals. And it's not just equality that matters to us, it's about equity too. These aren't just buzz words for the corporate world – they are part of our lived experiences right now, clear to see when you spend time in our school.

Our culture is something we're incredibly proud of. But we know that this is an agenda that doesn't stand still. So neither will we.



# Unleash her potential

As part of the GDST, a charity, we aim to reach as many girls as possible to ensure our school is a diverse and inclusive community.

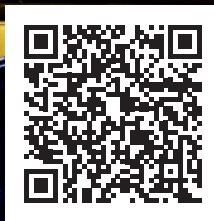
## Bursaries and scholarships

Thanks to the GDST's bursary fund, we are able to offer girls from all backgrounds the opportunity to have a Northampton High education.

Bursaries focus on supporting talented girls who would find it transformative and life-changing to attend our school, whilst scholarships are awarded to pupils in recognition of outstanding talent and achievement.

These girls join our Scholars' Programme, receiving dedicated mentoring, additional learning opportunities and financial support to enhance their individual interests.

Discover more information online or call our Admissions team for some friendly, straightforward advice.







### Wraparound care

Pupils can arrive in school from 7.30am and stay until 6pm, at no additional cost. Before-school, lunchtime and after-school clubs are available across the school, including Late Prep (supervised homework sessions), and offer something for everyone, wherever your interests lie.

# Designed around your family

### Transport

Our own local and regional transport programme, which extends to Kettering, Daventry, Brackley, Towcester, Milton Keynes, Olney and Rushden, is available to all girls. Operated by our experienced drivers, minibuses run at both ends of the school day plus after clubs.



Take a look at our current transport routes.





# Always part of our community

**Our Year 13 students leave us ready for the next stage of their adventure, prepared, and relishing the challenge.**

With excellent public examination outcomes and a robust inner confidence, students move on to the Higher Education course and destination that is right for them – to prestigious Russell Group universities or medical schools, to universities abroad, to specialist centres of excellence. But we know that Higher Education isn't for everyone, so apprenticeships, employment and gap years are all discussed as options too.

Being part of the GDST family, our alumnae join a network of over 100,000 engaged, likeminded women: mentors, cheerleaders, in every professional sector across the globe. Our alumnae network offers a professional community like no other.

## Beyond Northampton High

Another piece of research by the GDST found that girls in single-sex schools have higher aspirations and greater motivation than their female peers in coeducational schools\*.

\*Why (and how) girls thrive in girls-only schools, Kevin Stannard, MA PhD.  
The GDST Perspective, updated August 2022



# Don't just take our word for it

Pupils throughout the school demonstrate a high level of self-understanding, self-confidence, self-discipline and resilience...they develop a strong and deep appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures and traditions. The school has a diverse intake of pupils, and they benefit from this, learning from each other about diversity within society.



November 2019

Locally, the school has a formidable reputation, with its high level of academic expectation, but that reputation belies the nurturing, holistic and culturally expansive experience the school offers its pupils. Dr May Lee sees girls' education as a real calling and a passion for learning and academic excellence is a clear priority. Lee's ambition for the school and for the achievement and empowerment of the girls here is palpable.



October 2022

## Northampton High Junior School

Full of joy and energy, and masses of opportunity for girls to discover their passions and abilities.

## Northampton High School

These girls, along with the many others who join along the way, praise the friendly vibe, supportive staff and overall focus on empowering well-rounded young women of the future.



July 2023

## Parent quotes

"What this school offers is very special and aligns to our values, something which is far from guaranteed in either the state or independent sector. We feel incredibly fortunate that our daughter is able to benefit from the education on offer here. Thank you."

## Senior School parent, 2023

"My daughter loves being at this school, and we feel that she has been given the chance of an excellent education in order to enable her to reach her full potential."

## Junior School parent, 2022



# Pioneering girls education since 1878

With a long distinguished history and so much to offer, here's a snapshot of life at Northampton High School...

Our 2023 leavers achieved an incredible set of results, with over 70% heading to their first choice university, and over 60% heading to prestigious Russell Group Universities or medical schools.

## GCSE results 2023:

22% of grades at 9/A\*\*

42% of grades at 9/8/A\*

61% of grades at 9/8/7/A\*/A

## A Level results 2023:

13% of grades at A\*


44% of grades at A\*/A

76% of grades at A\*-B




**£450,000**  
spent each year  
on bursaries

More than 20 different home languages spoken by students and more than 27 different ethnicities within the school community



More than 200 members of staff and 500 students



50 week  
nursery



20+ A Level subjects on offer  
AND 20+ Electives on offer



20+ GCSE  
subjects to choose from AND 20+ Electives on offer



Current site opened in 1992 by HM Queen Elizabeth II



More than 60 sports fixtures played per year



7.30am-6pm  
wraparound care for all



Part of the GDST family of 25 schools

**GDST**  
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

Pupils join Year 7 from over 25 different primary schools each year

14 regular bus routes serving 170 bus stops, covering 800 miles per day

