



NEWLANDS GIRLS' SCHOOL
COURAGE COMMITMENT COMPASSION

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Dear Candidate

Thank you for taking an interest in applying to our very special school and I look forward to receiving your application.

My name is Jo Capon, and I am proud to be entering my fourth year as Headteacher. At Newlands, we set no limits on what can be achieved, and together with my dedicated and good-humoured staff, we strive every day to secure the very best outcomes for every student—regardless of background or starting point. In May 2024, Ofsted rated Newlands as Outstanding, opening their report with the words: *“Pupils thrive at this exceptional school.”* With over 1,200 students and a thriving Sixth Form, we are proud to be an inclusive comprehensive where girls flourish academically and personally.

Our student body is taken from the town of Maidenhead, 30 miles west of London, and from other parts of Berkshire and Buckinghamshire. Whilst overall the area is affluent, ours is a truly comprehensive girls' school, with students from all social, economic and ethnic backgrounds. The school is popular and well regarded in the local community, and is always oversubscribed. Parents, carers and governors are supportive, seeking to work with us to support their children.

Our ethos is built on teamwork, community, and our core values—the 3Cs: **Courage, Commitment, and Compassion**. Kindness is central to our culture, and I speak often in assemblies about the importance of looking out for one another and speaking up. You'll see this ethos reflected in our students, our staff, and the vibrant atmosphere throughout the school, which I invite you to come and visit.

Our academic results speak for themselves. This year, 75% of our Year 13 students achieved A*-C grades, with the majority securing places at their chosen universities. At GCSE, 86% of students passed both English and Maths, with many achieving top grades. These outcomes, alongside our stable and passionate staff body, are a testament to our commitment to excellence; we are the top performing school in the borough for progress and we are extremely proud of this.

We offer 27 A-Level subjects and a curriculum that includes Triple Science, Further Maths, Music and three languages. Our SEND provision has evolved significantly, with nurturing spaces like the Cocoon and our neurodiversity umbrella display—a bold statement of our commitment to celebrating difference.

Our three-year Key Stage 3 ensures students experience a full suite of subjects before specialising and at KS4 we have developed our offer to be wholly inclusive.

Behaviour at Newlands is impeccable, and we are proud to be ranked second in the borough for attendance. Our high standards, clear policies, and strong sense of pride are evident throughout the school.

Our house system fosters healthy competition and community spirit, with events like the House Quiz, Bake Off, and Sports Day bringing joy and camaraderie. Student leadership is central to our ethos, with opportunities ranging from prefects and mentors to our vibrant School Council, which led our Culture and Diversity Day—an event praised by Ofsted.

With over 70 clubs and countless trips, we ensure every student finds their place and builds lasting memories. We have worked hard in recent years to update our facilities and as well as a bespoke Music Department and new technical facilities in our Main School Hall, we have an indoor refurbished swimming pool and new outdoor classroom for staff and students to enjoy. We believe passionately in the arts and have thriving departments who enhance the school in all sorts of ways. As an example, 520 students took part in our annual Gym and Dance Show in February!

There is so much to offer you here and I hope I have given you a flavour of it; I also hope you feel inspired to want to come and work with us. If you have any further questions do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes



Jo Capon
Headteacher

