



CHALLNEY HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Ofsted
Outstanding
Provider

PROSPECTUS



Respect • Opportunity • Achievement



CHILTERN
LEARNING
TRUST



A VERY WARM WELCOME



At Challney High School for Girls, our aim is to develop influential young women of the future. We aim to support our girls to achieve more than they ever believed possible and to prepare them to make a difference to the world around them, locally, nationally and internationally.

We are a World Class, Outstanding school. We are unashamedly aspirational for our girls but we also want them to enjoy their time at school; to feel happy, safe and secure. Central to this is to ensure they benefit from a strong academic curriculum, highest standards of teaching and learning and outstanding pastoral care.

We are proud to serve our community and our aim is to give the girls a wide range of rich and memorable experiences which will help them develop into well rounded individuals in all aspects.

I look forward to welcoming you to our school.

Sheba George
Headteacher

Respect
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Achievement



I am really proud of what our girls have achieved and am certain that with the support of our staff and parents, this progress will continue.

The outstanding Ofsted judgement in March 2025 reflected the school's commitment to ensuring that all our girls are academically, socially and emotionally prepared for the future. Our teachers work really hard to inspire the girls to reach their full potential through passionate teaching that develops confidence, curiosity and independent learning within a safe, supportive and inclusive environment.

Rehana Faisal
Chair of Governors

A MESSAGE FROM ADRIAN ROGERS, CEO OF CHILTERN LEARNING TRUST

Welcome to Challney High School for Girls, part of Chiltern Learning Trust.

I'm incredibly proud to serve as CEO of the Chiltern Learning Trust, a family of eighteen schools across Bedfordshire. Our Trust, recognised nationally in 2025 as 'Trust of the Year', provides a network of expertise and support to Challney High School for Girls that allows teachers to focus completely on your child's success!

Our shared commitment is simple: to provide the highest standards of teaching and learning for all our learners so that every child within our school communities is able to develop to the very best of their ability. From timetable to extra-curricular activities, being part of the CLT family offers your child opportunities and experiences that are beyond those they would receive elsewhere.

At Challney High School for Girls your child will be taught by highly skilled, well-supported teachers who receive ongoing, top-tier training. With the support of our dedicated Central Team, the continued investment in our staff leads directly to outstanding teaching and excellent outcomes in the classroom.

Challney High School for Girls is an outstanding, World-Class accredited school consistently recognised for excellence. In 2024, it was positioned in the top 4% of schools nationally and was the 5th top-performing secondary state school for disadvantaged students in the East of England. Beyond these outstanding results, the school holds prestigious accreditations including NACE, and Careers Quality, and is also a Voice 21 school. Their commitment is driven by a staff body who are incredibly aspirational for all students, delivering the highest standards of teaching, learning, and pastoral care.

We invite you to discover more about what makes Challney High School for Girls and our Trust truly special by visiting our website and social media.

Adrian Rogers BEd, MA, NPQH, NLE
CEO Chiltern Learning Trust
National Leader of Education



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'Pupils thrive at this school. The school is determined, in all it does, that its girls will become 'influential women of the future'. It does exemplary work to ensure that pupils can achieve this ambition. The school provides exceptional opportunities for pupils to develop their self-confidence and raise their aspirations.'

Ofsted 'Outstanding' 2025



VISION AND VALUES

Our vision for the school is to support girls to achieve more than they ever believed possible and who are prepared to make a difference to the world around them, locally, nationally and internationally. In short, to *develop influential women of the future.*

The shared values of the school are summed up by three words which underpin all we do and provides guidance for all we strive to accomplish:

Respect
Opportunity
Achievement

ACHIEVEMENT AND STANDARDS

Challney High School for Girls is committed to academic excellence and this is reflected in the school's examination results.

The school acknowledges students' efforts and achievements by awarding merits, nominating 'Star of the Week' students and students are able to showcase their work on 'Proud Thursdays' to members of the Senior Leadership team.

Every year, each year group has an annual Achievement Assembly where we reward academic and sporting successes along with celebrating our students' contributions to the school and local community.

We hold an annual Awards Evening where prizes are presented by some of our inspiring alumni and nationally prominent women.



'The school is relentlessly ambitious for every pupil to succeed.'

Ofsted 'Outstanding' 2025



THE CURRICULUM

Our curriculum is designed to help us develop our students as influential women of the future who are respectful, ready and resilient.

We aim for all girls to be happy, learn and thrive in a stimulating environment with a learning culture that offers intellectual excitement, fosters a love of learning and provides a range of opportunities to develop their full potential.

We want them to leave the school equipped and prepared for successful futures in an ever-changing world.



The Key Stage 3 curriculum is broad and balanced including: English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Religious Education, Modern Foreign Languages, Art, Drama and Music, Technology, PE and a Personal Development Curriculum.

The Personal Development Curriculum aims to enable girls to discuss and debate the world around them and their place in it.

In Key Stage 4 all students follow a core curriculum although there is considerable scope for personalisation. Students are also able to take up subjects such as Business Studies, Computer Science, Photography, Child Development, Engineering Design and Economics.

'Staff precisely identify the important knowledge that pupils need. Pupils secure this before moving confidently on to new content.' Ofsted 'Outstanding' 2025

FACILITIES AND RESOURCES

The school's facilities are probably unrivalled within the school system. The indoor and outdoor PE facilities are state of the art, with an all-weather pitch and a purpose built Sports Hall. The girls benefit from a well-resourced and spacious library.

Each department area has an open-plan 'heart space' to enable active and student-led learning.

Our students benefit from exceptional facilities that enhance their love of the learning process and support their progress.

The use of technology is an integral part of the work of all curriculum areas, and an important feature of the work of all students.

The school has invested heavily in technology. We are well resourced throughout the school with laptops, iPads, and chromebooks. Most curriculum areas have their own dedicated ICT facilities within the department, as well as computer rooms that are available for booking when not being used for timetabled classes. The library has devices available before and after school and at lunch times in our Study Club. Every classroom is equipped with a state of the art BenQ interactive board that supports teachers to teach innovative, immersive and engaging lessons.



'Staff at all levels embrace the ambition of the school to improve the life chances of every pupil. Trustees, governors and leaders challenge themselves to further develop the school's offer.' Ofsted 'Outstanding' 2025



Challney High School for Girls is a World Class School

In 2023, we were awarded the World Class School Quality Mark. This award recognises schools whose students are World Class wherever you put them, beyond the school, in any given situation. In achieving this status, our students demonstrated a commitment to achievement, an understanding of the workplace, knowledge and understanding of the world around them, the power of community and their developing skills as learners and leaders.

As a school we have always prioritised the development of each student, so that they can understand what it means to be a successful, productive, and proactive member of their community and wider society. It is great that this has been celebrated at a national level. We are and continue to be very proud of our world class young people.

SPORTS AND HEALTHY LIVING

We believe that developing healthy lifestyles is a vital part of the education we provide and we work in partnership with students to develop a framework of activities that they enjoy and participate in.

The School Council has taken a lead in promoting healthy living and liaises with the school catering company to review options in the canteen.

The school canteen provides healthy vegetarian and meat food options, freshly cooked every day.

Physical Education plays a major role in the promotion of healthy lifestyles and the PE department encourages all students to participate fully, regardless of ability.

In May 2025, our PE department was awarded with the School Games Gold award, an accolade presented to schools who demonstrate a strong commitment to the development of competition across their school and community and who work hard to continue to grow the school's engagement with sport.

The wide range of sports on offer includes:

Winter:

**Netball . Football . Basketball
Gymnastics . Hockey . Benchball**

Summer:

Athletics . Rounders . Tennis . Cricket

Our inclusive and positive approach ensures that all students are able to take part in something they enjoy. The dance and dodgeball sessions at lunchtime are particularly popular!

PASTORAL CARE

Successful learning happens when students feel safe, confident, valued and respected.

On entering the school each student becomes a member of a form group. This marks the beginning of a strong bond with their form tutor who can maintain an overview of each child's personal and academic development.

The form tutor is responsible for the pastoral care of each student and is supported in this role by a Head of Year and an Assistant Head of Year.

Many of our students are more able and are challenged and supported in their lessons by highly qualified and motivated teachers.

Opportunities such as the Oxford University Wadham College and the Brilliant Club projects ensure that the girls' aspirations are supported academically. However, we have a single overarching principle to ensure we offer challenge for all students through the curriculum across all aspects of school.

We recognise that some students need additional support at some point in their school career. The Pupil Support Department works closely with students with learning and physical disabilities and also with students who have English as an Additional Language (EAL).

Learning mentors engage with individual students to ensure that each girl achieves her potential.

'Pupils learn how to keep themselves safe and healthy. If they need additional support with their well-being, the school provides it. Pupils are happy here, so their attendance is exceptionally high.' **Ofsted 'Outstanding' 2025**



'Pupils here welcome and celebrate each other's differences. They also recognise how people have much in common, such as the key features of different faiths.' Ofsted 'Outstanding' 2025



ENRICHMENT, STUDENT VOICE AND LEADERSHIP

At Challney High School for Girls we believe in equipping girls with the self-belief and leadership experience to become informed citizens and leaders of tomorrow. We have a wide range of enrichment opportunities for students to develop wide and rich memorable experiences, for example, Sports, Enrichment Days, Diversity Day, Kelly Holmes Project and Duke of Edinburgh. These days help to develop teamwork, resilience, strength of character and pushes students out of their comfort zone, whilst developing cultural capital.

Students have opportunities to express their views on school life and to contribute to the school's development and improvement through the Sports

Council, the Library Forum, Challney Voice and the Senior Prefect team.

We are proud of our formal structures of student leadership. Our House system, named after four influential women, Ennis-Hill, Brady, Jemison and Yousafzai, offers leadership opportunities such as House and Subject Captains.

Many of these leadership opportunities come through lessons in the form of group and individual presentations as well as student leaders of learning roles.

The girls also enjoy the opportunity to represent the school in sporting, music and drama activities.



'Pupils contribute enthusiastically to the school and wider community. They learn about social issues and engage passionately in social action, raising money for both national and international causes.'

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Citizenship is not just about expressing opinions; it is also about taking action to make a difference. At Challney High School for Girls the students are actively involved in planning and organising fundraising activities for local and global charities. The students support local charities such as Breast Cancer Care, The Luton Food Bank and Keech Hospice. The girls regularly raise more than £10,000 a year.

We are a Voice 21 school. This work supports our vision for developing influential women of the future by supporting the girls to develop strong voices so that they can confidently express what truly matters to them.

Our students are passionate about community and serving others; strong oracy skills will support them in being able to influence and make a positive difference to the world beyond the school.

Teachers have been developing their classroom practice using tools from our oracy toolkit and have been working on threading oracy activities through their curriculum.



'The school gives great value to building pupils' oracy and literacy. The school understands that pupils need to express themselves clearly and confidently. In lessons, 'talk tactics' help pupils to have purposeful discussions about their work.'

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PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

We believe a purposeful relationship with parents is crucial in ensuring students reach their potential. A good partnership involves honesty and good channels of communication so that parents are fully informed of their daughter's learning and development. This is an area we are always keen to improve and therefore we welcome feedback from parents.

There are numerous ways parents can be involved in their daughter's education:

PARENT CONSULTATION EVENINGS

Parents from all year groups are invited into school once a year for a formal consultation evening with members of the teaching staff. These evenings allow discussion of student progress, behaviour issues and targets for future success.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENINGS

Various information evenings are held throughout the year where we support parents to be involved in their daughter's education.

Our Year 6 Induction evening allows parents to begin their relationship with the school where they meet staff and form tutors. We also hold Year 10 and Year 11 Information evenings so that parents are fully informed of the GCSE specifications and demands and how they can support their daughter. For Key Stage 3 parents we hold, for example, an information options evening to enable parents to fully understand the courses and choices available.

PARENT GOVERNORS

The Governing Body includes a number of Parent Governors who are there to represent the views of parents and to ensure that they have a voice in the strategic decision making of the school.



'The school has engaged very successfully with the community to build close links with parents, carers and local employers'

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SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**

A MESSAGE FROM A YEAR 7 STUDENT

Dear Year 6 students,

I am writing to you all to share my experience with you at Challney Girls so far.

When I took my first glance at the school, thoughts rushed through my head. Questions were clouding my mind: What if I don't fit in? What if I get in trouble? What will I do if I don't make any friends?

But then I realised having these sorts of thoughts won't benefit me. So with a smile on my face I made my way through the day.

At first, the school Motto - Respect, Opportunity and Achievement - confused me but by the end of the day, not only did I understand its meaning but also that every student at Challney Girls has it, including me.

Doubts and fears will always occur when you do something for the first time, but it is important you overcome them just as I have.

Now I am proud to call myself a Challney Girl.

*Yours sincerely
Year 7 student*

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Opportunity
Achievement





CHALLNEY HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

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