School report



# Carshalton High School for Girls

West Street, Carshalton, Surrey SM5 2QX

1–2 November 2017

Inspection dates	Good
Overall effectiveness	Good
Effectiveness of leadership and management	Good
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment	Good
Personal development, behaviour and welfare	Good
Outcomes for pupils	Good
16 to 19 study programmes	Good

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

# Summary of key findings for parents and pupils

#### This is a good school

- The school is a happy and safe community where pupils do well and staff are proud to work.
  - The headteacher and leadership team have high aspirations for the school. They are strongly supported by governors and staff.
  - The quality of teaching is good overall, with aspects that are outstanding. This helps pupils to make good progress.
  - Pupils make good progress overall and in 2017 the progress of disadvantaged pupils was particularly good.

The sixth form provides students with good opportunities for academic and personal development. They are well prepared for the next stage of education or employment.

- The school's care and support for pupils is outstanding. Staff understand pupils' needs extremely well and work closely with other agencies to provide extra help, should this be
  - Pupils enjoy school and have good attitudes to learning. They behave well in lessons and around school.

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# Why Choose Carshalton High School for Girls?



## Why Choose Carshalton High School for Girls?

#### "The school is a happy and safe community where pupils do well and staff are proud to work". (Ofsted 2017)

#### A Proven Record of High Achievement

There is a continuing strong trend of improvement in examination results at both Post 16 and GCSE, proving that the school has high expectations and the capacity to ensure that students of **all** abilities achieve. We set aspirational and ambitious targets for all our students.

#### GCSE

In 2018 student outcomes were strong. Particularly pleasing was the significant improvement in the percentage of students achieving higher grades.

	Grade 9 - 5	Grade 9 - 4
English	61%	76%
Maths	41%	63%

Students achieving 9 to 5 in English and Maths and 5+ 9 to 5 passes up 7% from 2017.

#### Strong passes up **10%** on 2017; nearly **50%** of all grades achieved were 9 to 5.

#### Post 16

Including 'A' Levels and Vocational Awards, Year 13 achieved a pass rate of 99.5%. The percentage of entries achieving A\*/A was 25% and 76% of entries were at grades A\*/C. 66% of BTEC grades were Distinction\*/Distinction. In 2018 all students who applied to university secured their place.

Students at GCSE and 'A' Level make good progress regardless of their starting point.

"Pupils make good progress." (Ofsted 2017)

#### Unique Selling Points: Single Sex Education & the Girls' Learning Trust

Extensive research shows that girls achieve better in single sex schools, especially once they reach adolescence. Studies undertaken on behalf of the Good Schools Guide conclude:

"Girls are far more likely to thrive, get GCSE's and stay in education if they go to a single sex school. Those at girls' schools consistently make more progress than those in co-ed secondaries."

A study by the Economic Journal also concluded that single-sex schools are more likely to produce high-flying career women. The research highlights that the benefits for learners in an all-girls environment are:

- \* Less distraction and improved confidence
- ★ Willingness to take risks in the classroom
- \* Greater belief by learners that they can succeed in subjects such as Maths and Science.

We are part of the Girls' Learning Trust (GLT) with Nonsuch and Wallington High Schools, the only Multi-Academy Trust in the country made up of girls' schools with a specific focus on improving education provision and opportunities for girls.

#### Excellent Governance and Leadership across the School

Ofsted 2017 identified that:

#### "The headteacher and senior leadership team are strongly focused on providing a high quality education where the school is, in the words of its vision statement, 'a twenty first century centre of excellence." (Ofsted 2017)

There is highly experienced leadership at all levels within the school focused on securing continuous improvement.

"Governors share the leadership team's ambition for the school." (Ofsted 2017)

#### A Welcoming, Friendly, Safe Environment

We pride ourselves on securing a safe, welcoming, friendly environment. Respect for others and the school facilities are the norm and there are high expectations with regard to student behaviour, both inside and outside of school. Visitors frequently comment on the calm, friendly, welcoming atmosphere of the school and the courtesy and good, positive behaviour of students. Students clearly state they feel safe in school.

### "Pupils feel safe in school, and are regularly taught about how to stay safe." (Ofsted 2017)

#### High Quality Learning and Teaching

Learning and teaching on a daily basis is of extremely high quality. Students are inspired in their lessons through excellent teaching and active learning which is specifically designed around a 'Girl Friendly Pedagogy' framework. Homework is set regularly to support and reinforce learning and develop independent learning skills.

## "The quality of teaching and learning is good, and some aspects are outstanding." (Ofsted 2017)

#### Excellent Provision through a Personalised Curriculum

As a school we constantly review and develop our curriculum to meet both external requirements and the needs of our students. Despite significant changes imposed in recent years, the school has embraced this challenge and been successful in improving the outcomes for all our students, ensuring that the curriculum remains broad and balanced.

#### **Outstanding Care, Guidance and Support**

Our care, guidance and support for students is Outstanding. Ensuring students are happy and their well-being is at the heart of our ethos, as we understand a happy learner is far more likely to succeed. We have a very strong pastoral care system and a culture embedded across the school of staff 'going the extra distance' for our students.

#### "The school's work to promote pupils' personal development and welfare is outstanding. Pupils develop into confident, mature and articulate young people who have high aspirations and want to succeed. They appreciate all the help and support they receive." (Ofsted 2017)

#### **No Selection Test**

The school does not select students on the basis of ability. All students are provided for through a challenging but supportive curriculum and, in addition, have the opportunity to take part in a huge range of learning experiences outside their normal timetabled lessons.