

CHSG

Culture and Values

How we do things here



#teamchsg

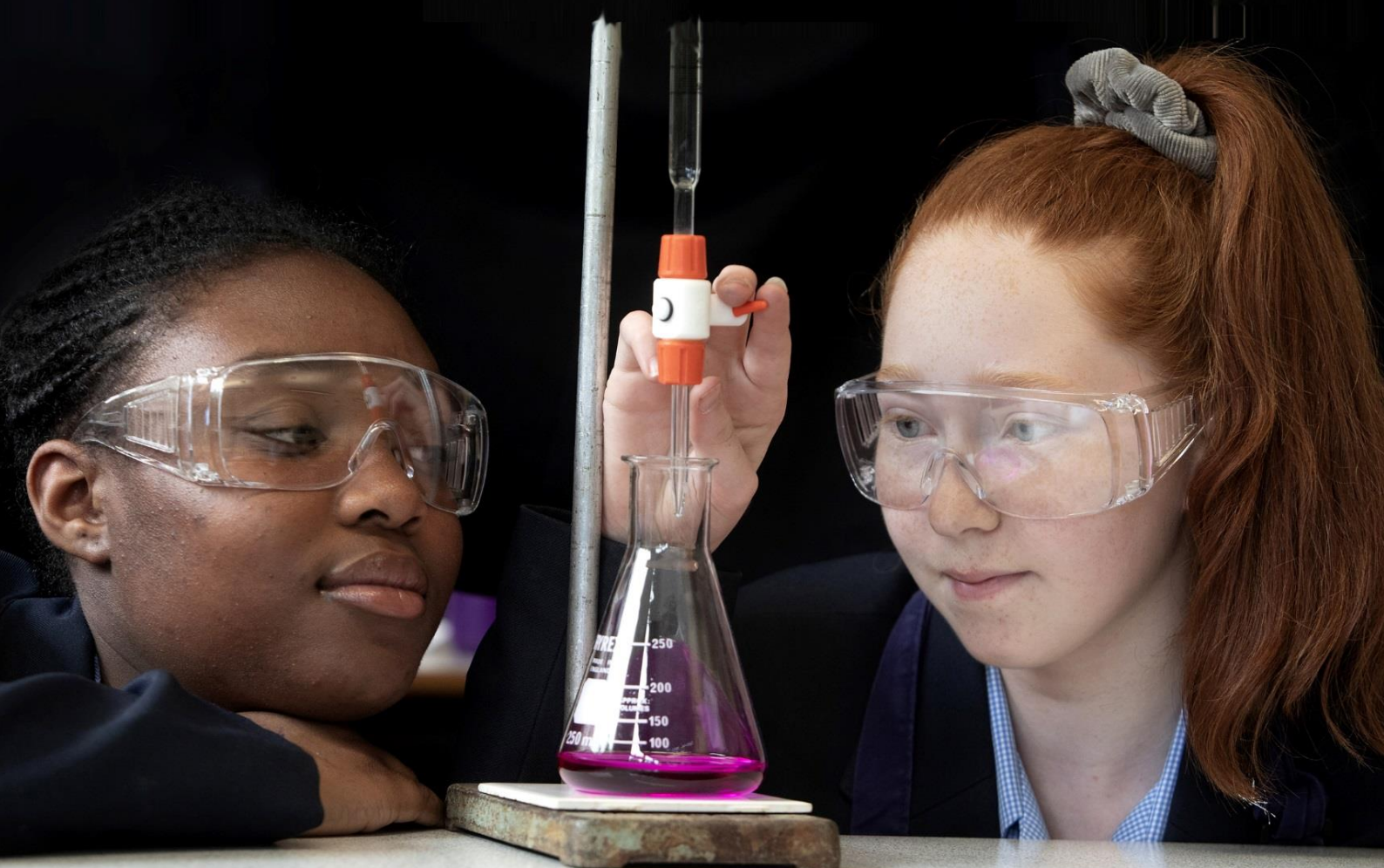
Welcome

Welcome to Carshalton High School for Girls.

Our aim, over the next few months is to help you to approach the transfer to our school with confidence and to enjoy the challenge such a change presents.

This booklet lays out our Culture and Values. It describes the way we do things here, at CHSG. We are a school that is fearless in its commitment to excellence. We take learning seriously – and we will help you to do the same. We take behaviour and conduct seriously. We take friendships and fun seriously, too. We have found, over time, that when students join us in aiming for excellence in every part of their school life, they do really well. We hope you will too.

We're glad you're joining us - you are very welcome!



Year 7 Team

We are keen that you settle into Carshalton High School for Girls as quickly as possible and there are a number of members of staff who, along with your Form Tutor, are available to help with this. You'll get to know who they are very quickly but here's a handy set of photos to help you on your way.

Senior Leadership Team for Year 7



Mr Devenney
Headteacher



Mr Elstone
Deputy Headteacher
Curriculum



Mr James
Assistant Headteacher
SENDCo & Raising
Standards Leader

Year 7 Team



Miss Stanley
Head of Year 7



Miss Williams
Assistant Head of Year 7



Mrs Watkins
Pastoral Support

Settling In

We normally run a series of events and opportunities in the Spring and Autumn term to support your transition to secondary school. In typical circumstances these would take place as detailed below. In the event that any or all of these events cannot run we are looking towards doing things differently. We will keep you informed of events we are able to hold.

Headstart (Late June)

Headstart is our additional Induction Day for those of you who are the only one, or one of two, coming from your current primary school. This day gives you a chance to get to know others in a similar position, as well as several members of staff. Headstart takes place exactly one week before the main Induction Day.

Induction Evening (July)

Induction Evening is an opportunity to hear from the Headteacher and key members of the Year 7 team about what you should expect as you begin at Carshalton High School for Girls. You will hear more about our school priorities and what excellence looks like in different areas of school life.

Induction Day (July)

Induction Day is a full day which serves to give you a taste of what life at Carshalton High School for Girls is like. You will spend time with your new Tutor Group, experience some lessons, have lunch in our canteen and have the opportunity to meet your new Form Tutor.

Base Camp (Summer Holidays)

Before mountaineers start a challenging climb, they will spend a few days at Base Camp preparing and adjusting to the new environment and conditions. CHSG Base Camp gives you the opportunity to get used to your new school, and meet other students, as well as some members of our school staff. Throughout the week(s) you will take part in many fun sessions which link to the different subjects such as Numeracy, Literacy, Sport, Dance and Art & Craft.

Trekking In (Summer Holidays)

'Trekking in' is the name of our Summer Holiday project. In the same way as a climber uses the time before reaching the base of their mountain to get used to the conditions, so too does our Trekking In programme support you in preparing for secondary school. Trekking In takes the form of a booklet which will be distributed late in the Summer Term.

Computer Induction (September)

We use several online platforms to support you in your learning. When considered separately most are very intuitive but we recognise the potential difficulties that may result if you are not given enough time to learn each programme. You will spend several of your Computer Science lessons learning how to register, log on, access your emails and use platforms such as Show My Homework, Hegarty Maths, Kerboodle & Accelerated Reader.

Who am I? - the character of a CHSG student. (October)

This is an exciting new venture for the 2021/2022 Year 7 students which will provide the opportunity to spend a school day in late September focusing on our core values. You will spend the day hearing from members of our Senior Leadership Team, taking part in activities and getting to know your Tutor Group better as you commit to aspiring to be an excellent CHSG student.

Staffing

Head of Year, Assistant Head of Year and Tutors

The HOY, together with AHOY, has overall pastoral responsibility for the year group. They support Form Tutors as they get to know you, help you settle in, and help you understand and meet our expectations of you as a student. Your HOY will monitor your progress and will work with the Raising Standards Leader to ensure you are making progress. Any queries or concerns from parents/carers should be addressed to your Form Tutor in the first instance – they will know you best and will be best placed to help with any difficulties.

Subject Teachers

During the course of Year 7 you will study: English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, a Modern Foreign Language, Visual Arts, Drama, Dance, Computer Science, Music, Physical Education, Design Technology, Religious Education and Citizenship.

You will be in several different class groups for your subjects so you'll have the chance to meet many other students in the year group developing friendships across the whole year group

You will have a different teacher for each subject. If any concerns about a subject arise and especially about the class work or homework that you do not fully understand, you should ask your teacher about it straight away.

Routines for Excellence

We are convinced that excellent learning is part of a broader set of routines that will set you up for success.

Pre-Registration Year Group Line Up

Every morning Year 7 line up outside the canteen at 8.30am before registration. This time is used to give announcements that are applicable to the year group, and to set the tone for the day. It is our experience that this time serves to make a distinction between the social elements of the morning that you enjoy as you eat breakfast or chat together in the canteen and the formal beginning of the school day. This helps you to shift your mindset towards the events of the day.

Equipment and Uniform Check

It is a basic expectation that you have the correct uniform and equipment for the day and we carry out a uniform and equipment check each morning. Our equipment list and uniform policy is in the Policies and Procedures booklet that you will receive shortly.

A background image showing a group of students in a classroom. Some students are looking at the camera, while others are looking down or to the side. They are wearing school uniforms. The image is slightly faded and serves as a backdrop for the text.

Homework

Homework is set regularly by each subject and serves to help you remember recent learning, or prepare for future learning. We recommend that where possible, you find a quiet space at home to complete homework efficiently. You can attend our Homework Club in the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) each afternoon where support and computer facilities are provided to enable you to complete your homework to a high standard. This is a part of secondary school life that students can find a worry. We are looking for you to be organised and show us your best when you complete your homework, that's all. Your teachers and other key staff are here to help support you to succeed in this area. It does take hard work, but so does all learning.

Developing Excellent Learners

We are keen to support you to achieve the very best you can in your academic pursuits. For the majority of you this is achieved through teaching you well in the classroom. We recognise that for some of you, additional short term or ongoing support is necessary to enable you to reach your potential.

Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

The Learning Support Team led by Mr James is available to provide support to students who would benefit from it. Mr James leads a team of staff who specialise in supporting students within the curriculum. Later on this term, further information will be sent to the parents/carers of those students who have been highlighted by their primary schools as likely to benefit from such support.

High Ability

From mid-way through Year 7 those of you identified as High Ability are placed on a register which is updated annually. The school arranges activities for you both during and after school. Upon identification, we will write to your parents/carers to ensure they are aware of the activities and opportunities that will be provided.

Pastoral Support

Your safety, health and well-being is of paramount importance at Carshalton High School for Girls and the school has a range of support structures and policies in place to ensure that we guide and care for you well. In addition to the Form Tutors and Year leaders we have team of Pastoral Support Officers who are allocated to the various year groups together with an Attendance and Welfare Officer. Further information can be found in the Policies and Procedures booklet.

Excellent Learning Behaviours

The way you behave, your conduct, must be excellent.

Classroom Conduct

We have clear expectations for classroom conduct and you will be reminded of these on a regular basis. It is essential that the learning of the majority is never disrupted by the desire of one or two to challenge the status quo in the room. Those who do not follow classroom expectations are warned and if necessary removed from the room to work in a nearby classroom so as to not disrupt the learning of their peers further.

Out of lesson conduct

The key values of respect and kindness are ones that we take particularly seriously in regards to out of lesson conduct. We do not tolerate disrespect to staff or other students or unkindness to others in any form and those who choose such actions are sanctioned swiftly and appropriately.

Extra-Curricular Activities

The school runs a rich programme of extracurricular activities that includes a number of sports, Computer Science, Dance, Drama, Music, Art and Crafts. We hope all of you will choose to participate in at least one of these. Details are issued termly, and can be found on the school website. As part of the induction process, we will be holding a 'Freshers' Fair' where you are informed of the clubs on offer and you are encouraged to sign up to at least one club.

Developing Excellent Citizens

House System

Each student is allocated via their Tutor Group to one of four Houses.



Blue



Green



Red



Yellow

Each House has a member of teaching staff who has a specific responsibility as Head of House, who is also an AHOY for Years 8-11. They will make themselves known to you very quickly in September.

The House system is the main means by which fundraising for charity and community-building events take place.

Rewards

Golden Tickets

Praise, encouragement and rewards are central to the ethos of our school. We believe that we get the best out of our students through praise, and we give rewards for effort and participation to motivate and inspire you.

We believe an effective rewards system and the celebration of success are essential to promote an ethos of high standards of excellence. They have a motivational role in helping students to realise that good, considerate behaviour, self-awareness and responsibility to self, and others, is valued.

There is the opportunity in every lesson for students to be rewarded. Each member of staff will award ONE Golden Ticket each lesson. This can be for excellent work, effort or attitude to learning in class.

The tickets are rewarded at the end of the lesson and the reward celebrated. The Golden Tickets can fit into your lanyards and are worth 3 house points! Golden ticket winners are also entered into a draw each term with the opportunity to win vouchers to spend!



Tutor Reads

Through our 'Tutor Reads' programme all students will have regular access to a teacher reading aloud, modelling fluency, explaining vocabulary and sharing in a passion for reading. This will be a shared social experience that will build a sense of community and belonging as well as increase the students' exposure to countless words and phrases not found in everyday dialogue.

The chosen books will be able to enable the coverage of a wealth of themes and concepts valuable for personal development as well as leading to an ongoing improvement of independent reading skills.

Reading allows students to peer into a world removed from their own and opens countless possibilities for students. When students say they do not like reading, this is understandable as this is effortful and we, as humans, tend to shy away from activities that require effort. However, everyone loves a story and through the Tutor Reads we require students to listen and enjoy a good story, which will have a powerful effect on their overall performance at school and in life.

The books on offer for Year 7 are an interesting and enjoyable collection of fiction, poetry and non-fiction, please see below for the list:

Windrush Child
Benjamin Zephaniah

Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats
T. S. Eliot

Can you See Me?
Libby Scott and Rebecca Westcott

Letters from the Lighthouse
Emma Carroll

Becoming Jo
Sophie McKenzie

The Firework-Maker's Daughter
Philip Pullman

The Boy at the Back of the Class
Onjali Q. Raúf

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
Lewis Carroll

The House with Chicken Legs
Sophie Anderson

Gods, Heroes and Monsters
Bernard Evslin

I am Malala
Christina Lamb and Malala Yousafzai

Excellent Readers: Recommended Reading List

The following is a list of books that we recommend you to read during Year 7. They have been chosen as both students and staff have found them enjoyable. Maybe you have read some of them already.

Classics of children's literature:

Frances Hodgson-Burnett

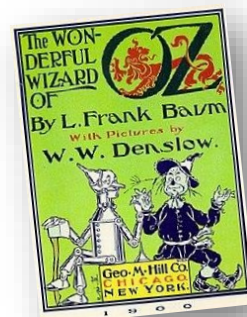
Rudyard Kipling

Frank Baum

The Secret Garden and The Little Princess

The Jungle Books (1 and 2)

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz



Charles Kingsley

Lewis Carroll

Oscar Wilde

Kenneth Grahame

E Nesbit

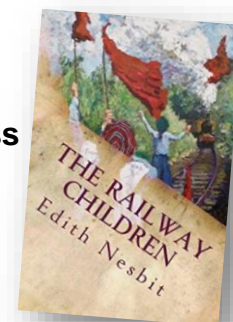
The Waterbabies

Alice in Wonderland & Through the Looking Glass

The Happy Prince and other stories

The Wind in the Willows

The Railway Children and Five Children and It



James Barrie

Michelle Magorian

CS Lewis

Peter Pan

Pan in Scarlet

**The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe
and the Narnia series**



Louisa M Alcott

Susan Coolidge

Anna Sewell

Mary Norton

L M Montgomery

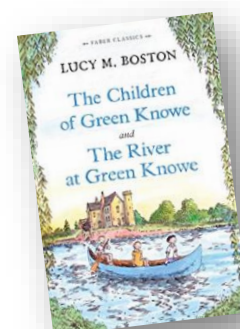
Little Women

What Katy Did

Black Beauty

The Borrowers

Anne of Green Gables



L M Boston

Children of Green Knowe

Books we have enjoyed recently:

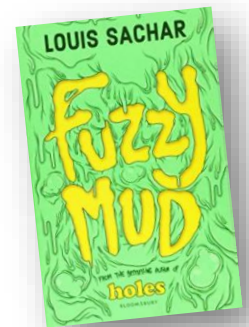
Eoin Colfer
Ursula le Guin
Rick Riordan

Artemis Fowl
Wizard of Earthsea
Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief



Kevin Crossley-Holland
Jenny Nimmo
Lemony Snicket
Sarah Crossan
Philip Reeve
Michael Morpurgo
Essa Curtis
Darren Shan
Louis Sachar

Arthur and the Seeing Stone
A Midnight for Charlie Bone
A Series of Unfortunate Events
One
Mortal Engines
Private Peaceful
The Earth is Singing
The Vampire's Assistant
Fuzzy Mud



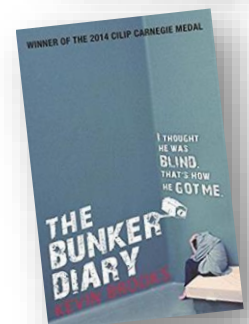
Marcus Sedgwick
Patrick Ness
Malorie Blackman
Morris Gleitzman

My Sword Hand is Singing
The Ask and the Answer
Noughts and Crosses
Once (followed by Then and Now)



Frank Cottrell Boyce
Eva Ibbotson
Julia Bertagna
Tanya Landman
Kevin Brooks

Millions
Journey to the River Sea
Exodus
Apache
The Bunker Diary*



Laurie Halse Anderson
Berlie Doherty
Anne Fine
Andy Mulligan
Gillian Cross
Marcus Zusak

Chains
Dear Nobody
Flour Babies
Trash
Wolf
The Book Thief



**The Bunker Diary by Kevin Brooks does deal with some themes parents may wish their daughter not to read at this age. We would encourage parents to investigate this for themselves before their daughter decides to read the book.*



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Girls' Learning Trust