



# THE CAMDEN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS





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## CONTENTS

WELCOME TO CAMDEN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS .....	4
OUR VISION, AIMS AND VALUES .....	6
A BROAD CURRICULUM AND INSPIRATIONAL TEACHING ....	8
DEVELOPING THE INDIVIDUAL .....	10
A STRONG PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS AND CARERS .....	12
WE LISTEN TO STUDENTS .....	14
OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM .....	16
A STIMULATING AND WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT .....	18
BEYOND THE SCHOOL GATE .....	20
NEW HORIZONS .....	22



# WELCOME

TO CAMDEN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Camden School for Girls is a comprehensive school that provides an excellent education for all its students. We are determined to make learning enjoyable, interesting and stimulating so that all our students reach their full potential. As a parent or carer, you will be keen to discover what makes this school unique, and how we will care for your child as she grows towards adulthood, making sure that she reaches her full potential. This booklet will give you that information, and you will also gain a clear understanding of how the school works from our website, from visiting the school and from speaking to students and teachers.



It has been a really  
enjoyable first term

NEW YEAR 7 STUDENT

Our school motto, dating from the school's foundation in 1871, is 'Onwards and Upwards'. This captures the sense of optimism and determination to succeed that permeates the school. We aim to develop resilience in our students, and the ability to be tenacious in their quest to be the best that they can be in all aspects of their lives.

We are ambitious for every young person in our school, and our commitment to their success is combined with very strong pastoral work to make sure that students feel happy, safe and supported at all times. We enable our students to find their own voices and develop their own opinions by encouraging a broad understanding of the world, a social conscience and a considerate approach to other people. Every student is valued, and we encourage all students to value other people as well. Our aim is to nurture caring, confident, responsible and mature young adults who are ready to go on to the next stage of their education.

I do hope you and your daughter enjoy your visit and take away a strong sense of how this school provides an outstanding education.



Elizabeth Kitcatt  
Headteacher



# OUR VISION, AIMS AND VALUES

The Camden School for Girls was founded in 1871 by Frances Mary Buss, one of the great pioneers of women's education. The main school admits girls and has a comprehensive intake. At sixth form level the school has specific GCSE requirements and it also admits boys. The school aims to create a social and physical environment which combines security and care with challenge, stimulus and the highest expectations, where staff and students work together with the understanding and support of parents and carers.

Our vision for the future is to sustain and to promote the school's ethos, heritage and philosophy within the contexts of public policy, social trends and educational need, ensuring that it can adapt to and meet future challenges.



## The aims and values of the school are:

- to maintain and develop the school's tradition of providing the highest quality of education
- to offer equality of opportunity and care to all students whatever their race, gender, class, creed or special needs.
- to promote a sense of environmental and social responsibility
- to foster a supportive environment where staff and students are valued, motivated and fulfilled
- to be a positive presence within the wider community
- to encourage all students to:
  - develop their individual talents to the full
  - have confidence in themselves and a sense of self-worth
  - work co-operatively with others
  - develop independence of thought
  - value education and enjoy learning
  - practise tolerance and open mindedness
  - show consideration for others and respect their diverse qualities and needs

I hope you will recognise our commitment to our vision, aims and values as you visit the school and explore more information about it on our website.



My daughter is happy and educationally engaged

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The school maintains its embedded roots and traditions whilst providing the students with an outstanding quality of education ensuring they are ready to make their mark in the 21st century world in which they live

DR JENNY FRANCIS,  
CAMDEN PROFESSIONAL PARTNER  
TO THE SCHOOL – JULY 2019



# A BROAD CURRICULUM & INSPIRATIONAL TEACHING

The school offers a broad and balanced curriculum which is in accordance with national requirements but has a distinctive character derived from the strengths and traditions of the school. The school has been praised for the moral, spiritual, cultural and social development of its students through the full range of subject teaching, pastoral guidance and the variety of extra-curricular activities on offer. Our teachers are well-qualified specialists who combine excellent subject knowledge with the ability to make learning interesting, challenging and enjoyable.

## Year seven, eight and nine NATIONAL CURRICULUM KEY STAGE THREE

The four classes in each year form teaching groups for some subjects. Smaller groups are created for the teaching of practical subjects. Students who struggle with their learning are given additional assistance by our Learning Support department.

### *Subjects taught:*

**KEY STAGE THREE** – English and drama, mathematics, science, geography, history, modern foreign languages, theology and philosophy, art, music, design technology (food, resistant materials and textiles), ICT, physical education and personal, social, health and economic education.

*In modern languages students study French and Spanish in parallel for the first half term. A decision about which language to study from then on to GCSE is taken towards the half term in October.*

In Year 8, all students study Classics and at the end of Year 8 students are offered the choice for Year 9 of studying Latin or continuing study of classical civilization. Decisions are made between students, parents and staff. Camden School for Girls is one of the few remaining maintained schools to offer the full range of classical subjects; Classical Civilization, Latin and Ancient Greek.



## THE CURRICULUM IN KEY STAGE FOUR

In Years 10 and 11 students follow a rich programme of core and optional subjects.

### *Core subjects:*

We are delighted to be offering triple science as well as double science at GCSE, as part of our core offer, which includes English, mathematics, theology and philosophy, physical education, French or Spanish and personal, health, social and economic education. All students take English Literature GCSE as well.

In the Spring Term Year 9 students are offered 3 choices of GCSE and Vocational courses. Options offered for 2020/2021:

- Art
- ICT
- Classical Civilisation
- Computer Studies
- Design and Technology (Textiles or Resistant Materials)
- Latin
- Music
- Health and Social Care
- Hairdressing & Beauty Therapy
- Geography
- Sociology
- History
- Academic Support
- PE

*In addition Ancient Greek GCSE is currently offered either before or after school. In Year 9 a small group of students may be able to give up their foreign language and take Hairdressing & Beauty Therapy.*



# DEVELOPING THE INDIVIDUAL

For me, the most difficult part of my school career will be leaving it; saying goodbye to the impassioned teachers and students who have moulded me, for better or for worse, so that in a few years I will be a Camden Girl outside of Camden – *'How lucky am I to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard'* – Winnie the Pooh, 1926

MAIN SCHOOL HEAD GIRL 2019

We have a dedicated and experienced pastoral care team with a Head of Year and Assistant Head of Year managing a team of four Form Tutors who have daily contact with students. They monitor the wellbeing, attendance, progress and achievement of all students in their group. Whenever possible, students remain with the same Form Tutor and Head of Year throughout their five years in Camden School for Girls. This system provides stability and establishes trust between home and school.

We pride ourselves on excellent standards of achievement but we also want our students to have the skills and motivation to succeed in all areas in their lives, have high self-esteem and be respectful citizens.

All students follow the school's Code of Behaviour which revolves around developing the individual's obligations to the community. There are deliberately few rules and our behaviour code was written in collaboration with the

The clubs and lunchtime activities have been very important to my daughter

PARENT SURVEY 2019



students and is a short series of expectations that promote good behaviour.

Our pastoral team is always prepared to do everything possible to ensure that the students make rapid progress both socially and academically.



# A STRONG PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS AND CARERS

CSG is a fantastic school and whenever we have had any concerns we have found staff to be very responsive

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It's a great environment

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We value our partnership with parents and carers and are grateful for the contribution they make in supporting the school and their children's progress. This partnership is at the heart of all we do.

We maintain close and regular contact with parents and carers through the weekly 'Camden Friday News', ParentMail, Daily News Sheet and the school website. All give up to date information and are on the school's website ([www.camdengirls.camden.sch.uk](http://www.camdengirls.camden.sch.uk)).

All staff are keen to have close contact with parents and carers so that together we can be consistent in encouraging hard work and promoting good behaviour. The school provides additional curriculum and pastoral support for students who are eligible for the Pupil Premium. Assistance is provided with the costs of trips and learning materials.

The Camden School Community Association (CASCA) is also committed to bringing parents, carers and staff together to raise money and support the school. It provides opportunities for everyone to work together in organizing a range of community events.

CASCA support has enabled the school to move forward with a range of initiatives, from raising money for a new science laboratory, improving the school's ICT systems and supporting the Performing Arts. A recent project 60:60 raised in excess of its target to provide funds for the school and we have initiated a new project to 'go green' by replacing plastic cutlery and cups with re-usable items in our canteen, and encouraging students to be aware of recycling, which is proving very successful.



# WE LISTEN TO STUDENTS



Camden School for Girls is democratic and energetic, and our students have a true sense of ownership, responsibility and care towards each other and the school.

Our School Council is an elected body of students from across all year groups, led by the Head Girl and her deputies. Together they meet and organize events such as Pink Day (breast cancer awareness), International Women's Day and raise a significant amount of money for other charities. In addition, the School Council regularly invites visitors into school to talk to students about their lives and work.

School Council meetings provide a forum where students can also discuss and propose resolutions about issues which are important to them. Through the School Council we encourage an interest in politics and the world around us.

As you step into the school it is evident that the staff provide a safe secure environment where all feel valued, confident and cared for

DR. JENNY FRANCIS, CAMDEN PROFESSIONAL PARTNER TO THE SCHOOL – JULY 2019



## OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

We believe that students learn as much outside the classroom as in it. We offer a wide variety of extra-curricular activities to all students at lunchtime and after school. We are very proud of our status as a music specialist school and have received the London Music Award in recognition of our excellent provision. The music offer includes two orchestras, chamber music ensembles, three choirs and a wind band. Other activities include debating, raising environmental awareness, Glee Club, Feminist Club as well as philosophy, Latin language, design technology and art clubs. Students have access to computers in the library and to other facilities outside school hours for homework and to enable them to pursue their interests. Students are also able to access the school network remotely. The school schedules a rich variety of music and drama performances every year. Past productions include *Godspell*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Grease*, *Candide*, *Romeo & Juliet* and *Medea*.

Our PE department offers a large selection of activities including trampolining, football, netball, basketball, volleyball, badminton

athletics and dance. The department has strong links with the Highgate Harriers and Arsenal Football Club and school teams participate in a wide range of borough and London based competitions.

In addition we offer a number of school trips to inspire students and support the curriculum. Day trips include visits to the Imperial War Museum, Tate Modern, the Tower of London, Neasden Temple, The Jewish Museum London, the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Science Museum. A programme of residential school journeys is organised annually including the Language Department trips to Madrid and Paris, the Geography field trip to Wales and the PE department outward bound trip to Devon.

**My daughter enjoys all her activities at school, especially sports**

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# A STIMULATING & WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

**T**he school has some beautiful Edwardian buildings, including the distinctive Bell Tower at the top of the oldest block on the site. A World War Two bomb demolished a large section of this building and it was replaced by the 1950s accommodation that houses many of our current, excellent facilities, including a spacious and well-lit art studio, a photography studio, dedicated ICT facilities and a stunning, well-stocked library that is beautifully maintained by our full-time school librarian.

Our music facilities are outstanding, and include a generous performance space as well as smaller rooms specifically designed for individual music tuition. The design technology workshops provide our students with excellent opportunities to design and make in resistant materials, textiles and food.

Many of our classrooms provide generous, comfortable spaces for learning, and we are particularly delighted that our 1960s science laboratories have been extensively refurbished, so that students are now enjoying bright, modern, well-equipped spaces in which to learn.

We have a quiet and welcoming space in which students who require learning support have individual or small group tuition. We are also very pleased that we have received funding to extend the dining hall and foyer areas and to add some much needed larger classrooms and private study space into the sixth form block.

There are very welcoming open spaces around the school and our own gymnasium and games court. We also make use of local sports facilities in order to extend the curriculum. All our visitors notice the exceptionally high quality of the student art work around the school, a feature of which we are especially proud.

*It is a great privilege  
for my daughter to  
attend CSG, I am  
incredibly thankful for  
all that the school do*

PARENT SURVEY 2019



# BEYOND THE SCHOOL GATE



CSG is no doubt a special place and this makes the challenge of growing up and leaving school behind even harder...whilst I'm sad that this chapter of life is coming to a close I'm so grateful for the progressive toolkit that CSG has given me for entering the real world

SIXTH FORM HEAD GIRL 2019

**A**t Camden School for Girls we aim to raise the aspirations of our students and encourage them to consider a wide range of careers. We want to make sure our students leave the school as independent individuals, ready to take their place in the world. Our careers education is combined with guidance and advice to ensure that all of our students develop the knowledge and skills that they need to make successful choices, manage transitions in learning and move successfully into the world of work. We aim to challenge stereotypes and broaden our students' horizons about the various career opportunities and pathways that are available to them and learn about skills that are valued in the world of work. Students receive independent careers information, advice and guidance and are encouraged to pursue pathways that best suit their talents, interests and expected level of qualification.

Year 7 and Year 8 careers information is delivered through the PSHEE curriculum. All Year 9 students will have a careers interview which supports them in making informed decisions. All Year 10 students complete two weeks of work experience in July which offers them an insight into future careers and enables them to know what options are available to them within their local communities. Year 11 students receive 1:1 independent careers advice and the school hosts a conference to offer additional guidance on post 16 options.

Students have chosen careers in a wide range of fields including fine dining, medicine, product design, journalism, visual communication, creative media, law and international development.



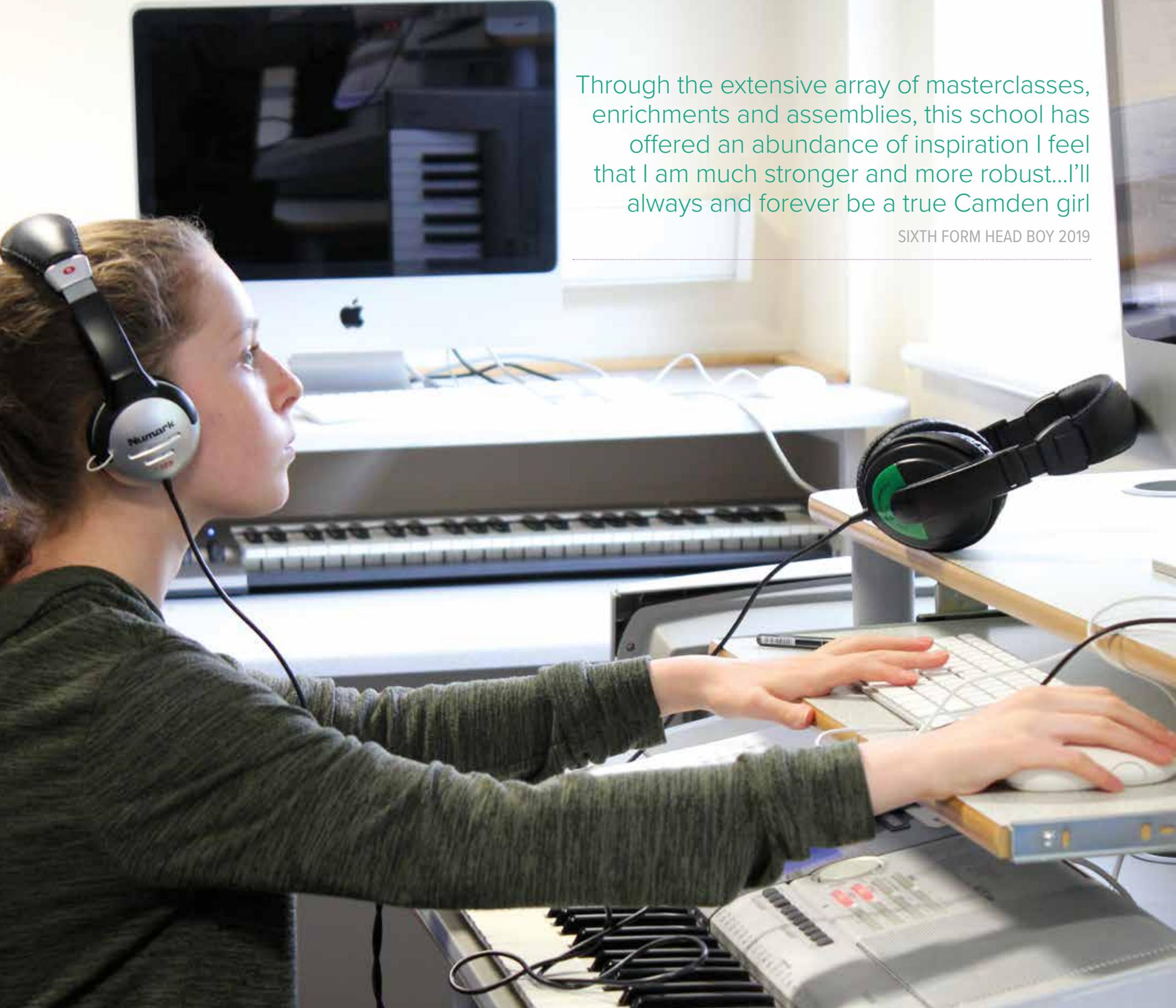
# NEW HORIZONS

**A**t the end of her time in the main school, your daughter may wish to attend our excellent sixth form. We offer a wealth of different A level subjects and we have an outstanding record of successful entry among our students to Russell Group universities, medical school, Cambridge and Oxford, dentistry, veterinary science degrees and Art Colleges. The Sixth Form has its own learning and relaxation space, but sixth formers mix freely with younger students and this is very much one single school.



Some of our students choose to pursue more vocational courses and this area is well served with Further Education colleges. Opportunities are explored thoroughly with students as they make their way through the main school and prepare for their education post-16 and beyond. The school provides exceptional careers and course advice, and supports individual students through each transition, from Key Stage Three to GCSE, and from GCSE to A Level and other post-16 provision.

We have a rich and extensive network of past students who remain in touch with the school and support it in many ways.



Through the extensive array of masterclasses, enrichments and assemblies, this school has offered an abundance of inspiration I feel that I am much stronger and more robust...I'll always and forever be a true Camden girl

SIXTH FORM HEAD BOY 2019



# THE CAMDEN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

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